

Report of

The operations of the 5th Corps, A. P. in Genl. Grant's
Campaign from Culpeper to Petersburg As seen
by W. A. Roebling, Maj. & A.D.C.

1864

Wednesday, May 4th

The four divisions of the 5th Corps left their different camps at precisely 12m. in the night, taking up the line of march for Germanna ford. General Griffin's Division took the lead followed by Generals Crawford, Robinson and Wadsworth. The ponton trains had been ordered from Rappahannock Station the day before. The Cavalry having crossed before 6 o'clock, the ponton trains were laid by 6 1/2 A.M. The large wooden boats up stream, and canvas-boats lower down; at the same time, 3 roads were prepared on the other side, so as to have no delay in ascending the hill on the opposite bank. (Our column of troops was plainly seen by daylight from the enemy's signal station on Clark's Mt. and they had a large signal fire burning.) At 7 1/2 A.M., the head of the 1st Div. commenced to cross, followed by the Artillery and other divisions. By 4 P.M. everything was in camp around the Lacy house and Wilderness run. Three bridges were built over Wilderness run that afternoon. Genl. Griffin's Div. was camped in line of battle across the Orange pike about 1 m. west of the Lacy house.

The general understanding that night was that we were to

attack the enemy in the morning advancing westward; it was supposed that our line of battle would reach from the pike to the plank road, with the 2^d Corps on our left and the 6th on our right.

Thursday, May 5th

At daybreak Genl. Crawford's Div. started for Parker's store by a little wood road, narrow and but little used. Pioneers were sent ahead from the 3^d & 4th Divs.; 3 bridges were built over the western branches of the Wilderness run and the road was cut out to a width of 20 feet. Gen. Wadsworth's Div. followed, and then Gen. Robinson's. When we arrived at Tuning's field brisk firing was heard at Parker's store. This field was a commanding plateau overlooking the ground to the north and west and connecting with the plank road by two good roads, one leading to Parker's store and the other to a point a mile East of the store. It became evident at once that it would be of the utmost importance to hold that field, as its possession would divide Lee's army in two parts if he attempted operations down the plank road and pike at the same time; and if he attempted to pass us and attack the 2d Corps further down the plank road we could fall upon his rear; again it was the best fighting-ground in the whole neighborhood. The 3^d Div. was therefore at once put in position with its two batteries, one brigade facing west and the other south; while they were intrenching themselves, I went forward to Parker's store. I there found a battalion of Wilson's Cavalry skirmishing with the enemy's infantry; the officers informed me that he could hold on perhaps 15 minutes

longer: too little time to put the 3^d Div. in line of battle across the plank road, especially as there was but little open ground around the store. When I returned to Gen. Crawford he had already deployed a skirmish line which was advancing towards the plank road and also in a S.W. direction. By the time they arrived within 200 yards of the plank road, the cavalry had already given way, retiring rapidly towards Chancellorsville, and the skirmishers became engaged with the flankers of an infantry column moving steadily down the plank road. The enemy seemed to be unaware of the 3^d Div. being on their flanks but kept steadily on; some of their flankers came down the S.E. road before mentioned and fired into the rear of the right wing, but they were quickly dislodged. Communication being opened with the Lacy house by signals, the situation of affairs was explained by Gen. Crawford and instructions asked for (two hours were wasted doing nothing & the enemy marched down the plank road past Crawford as if he did not exist); no definite answer was received, as Gen. Warren was making arrangements to attack or meet the attack of Gen. Ewell coming down the pike. I rode down towards the Lacy house, passing the 4th and part of the 2^d Divs in line of battle on the road, the 4th Div. on the left, its left resting on Wilderness run in a small open field; the orders they had were to advance due west, keep closed up to the right, and attack the enemy when found; they had to advance through an exceedingly thick growth of small pines and underbrush where a man could not be seen 20 feet off. I do not remember whether I found Gen. Warren or not; at any rate I returned at once to the

3^d (Crawford) Div.; as I passed along, the line commenced to move; this was sometime between 9 and 10. I found Gen. Crawford had orders to join in the main attack and form on the left of Wadsworth. As the 4th Div. had already moved, the Brigade of Col. McCandless (of Crawford's div.) was placed in such a position as to strike the left of the 4th Div. if they went far enough into the woods. The enemy was still moving down the plank road evidently in very large force. The firing now commenced, it was very heavy for at least half an hour. Returning to the Lacy house, I found the little road crowded with stragglers and large crowds of soldiers pouring out of the woods in great confusion and almost panic stricken; some said they were flanked, others that they had suddenly come upon the Rebs lying concealed in two lines of battle in the thick underbrush, and that our men had broke and run after the first volley. Cutler's Brig. come back in pretty good order, bringing a number of prisoners The 2^d Div. (Baxter's Brig.) came back in much less confusion. The stragglers mostly halted in the meadow-bottoms around the Lacy house; I saw no part of Gen Griffin's line and can't say how they fared; their attack was however repulsed, and they claim it was the first time they were ever beaten. As the enemy was reported to be pursuing there was danger of Crawford's being cut off, so he was ordered back at once and took position about 1 mile S.W. of the Lacy house, facing towards Parker's store; the Brigade of McCandless had been handled even worse than the rest, being almost surrounded and losing about two whole regiments by capture. The enemy did not follow as far as the road that day. Gen:

Wadsworth was much chagrined at the conduct of his men. The cause of the repulse is easily accounted for; it will be seen that the course of the middle part of the road from Lacy's to Tuning's runs almost parallel with the pike; wadsworth's

line started facing N.W. in place of going due W. Ewell's line was at right angles with the pike behind or in a road running S.E. from Spottswood's, so that by the time our line of battle passed the Hagorson house, the 4th Div. almost faced the pike directly and the first fire of the enemy came square upon its flank: the thick wood prevented any charge of the line on the spot, and by running back, the men did about the best thing they could. McCandless' Brig. never joined Wadsworth's left, and being a small isolated force were easily beaten. One section of Winslow's battery was lost. Ayres' Brig. on the right of the road was driven back across the pike, the guns remaining in the hands of the enemy for a short time, and although driven back afterwards, the guns could not be hauled off and remained between the two lines, the enemy getting them ultimately. Capt. Winslow was severely wounded: these are the only guns lost by the Corps during the campaign.

About 1 o'clock Gen. Crawford's Div. was placed in position about a mile from the Lacy house, guarding the road from Tuning's. Griffin's line was also straightened out. Heavy firing was heard on the Brock road where the 2^d Corps was in position (having just arrived). A column of the enemy was seen moving past Tuning's house towards Hancock (probably); they came on a little wood road past a small block-house west of Tuning's.

Genls. Grant and Meade arrived at our Headquarters at the Lacy house about 2 1/2 P.M. (May 5th) o'clock. The firing of the 2^d Corps was exceedingly heavy at this time. Gen. Grant ordered a diversion to be made in the rear. The troops designated for this purpose were Baxter's Brig. of the 2^d and the 4th Divs. All their stragglers had been collected by this time, and their men rested. Gen. Wadsworth in particular was anxious to retrieve the repulse of the morning. His orders were to advance towards the firing which was at the intersection of the plank road and Brock road; by following this direction he was expected to strike the enemy attacking Hancock on their left flank and rear. The column under command of Gen. Wadsworth moved about 4 o'clock; after entering the woods S.E. of Lacy's, line of battle was formed. The woods were very thick and full of underbrush. The troops were formed in two lines--the 4th Div. in front and Brig. of the 2^d on the 2^d line, more to the right. After proceeding half a mile, the skirmish line of the enemy was driven in and steadily pushed until it was too dark to see, when the troops halted in line of battle for the night; the resistance of the enemy had not been very severe; the line had gradually swung around so as to be facing more nearly South, between the Wid. Tap's field and the Brock road, the left being perhaps half a mile from the Brock road. The prisoners taken stated they belonged to Hill's Corps and had only been posted there 10 minutes previous. They belonged to the column which had been observed during the day marching past the Tuning house. It had been hoped that we would form connection with the 2^d Corps that evening, but darkness

came on too soon. I returned to the Lacy house at 9 P.M. and at 11 1/2 P.M. went to Grant's HdQrs. to see Col. Comstock in relation to the movements of the 9th Corps for the coming day. Two options presented themselves--either to go and join Wadsworth by daylight, or else obtain possession of the heights at Tuning's, and fall upon the enemy's rear by that route; if successful in carrying these heights the latter plan promised the greatest results, if not, it would fail altogether. Then again it was thought that when Gen. Wadsworth joined the 2d Corps the two together would be sufficient to drive the enemy. Gen. Grant therefore decided that the 9th Corps should go to Tuning's, and I prepared to accompany them at 4 o'clock in the morning. No general officer was killed this day. Gen. Bartlett was wounded slightly. Great hopes were entertained for the movement in the morning.

Friday, May 6th

Before 5 o'clock the musketry commenced on Gen Wadsworth's front. Capt. Cope was sent there at sunrise and reports the following as the condition of affairs:

"When I arrived at the Widow Tap's field I found Rice's Brig. coming back; they had just charged across a little hill in the field, driving the rebels across it to the plank road; here a battery of the enemy suddenly opened on them, enfilading their line and driving them back. This battery of the enemy's was located on the plank road, 1 1/2 m. E. of Parker's store where the road from Tuning's comes in.

"About 7 o'clock the line of Gen. Wadsworth was formed

across the plank road $3/4$ m. from the Brock road, he had 4 regiments on each side of the road, and the line of battle was 2 to 3 times deep. While he was fighting there in front of the 2^d Corps with varying success, his line swaying back and forward, and receiving the brunt of the enemy's attack, the greater part of the 2^d Corps was lying in the Brock road part of it entrenched. A portion of Rice's Brig. when driven from Tap's field retired towards Lacy's.

"Gen. Wadsworth maintained the unequal contest the whole morning, keeping his ground until he was killed at 2 P.M. He was struck in the head by a musket ball while standing on the plank road and fell into the enemy's hands."

He died next day at a house near Robertson's tavern.

After his death the command fell back behind the 2^d Corps line. Gen. Robinson took position with his Div., Lyle's Brig. and Md. Brig. on the right of the 2^d Corps, on the Brock road about 3 o'clock, and remained there. Gen. Cutler collected the remainder of the 4th Div. and returned in course of the day to near the Lacy house. Gen. Baxter was wounded in the leg, Col. Coulter taking command. This Brig. of Coulter's crossed the entire front of the 2^d Corps and finally came around their left; having stopped at the Lacy House they were again ordered to the 2^d Corps when the Rebs broke their line in the latter part of the afternoon, but the emergency having passed by they halted alongside the Germanna plank road East of the Wilderness run.

To return now to morning I will give my experience with the 9th Corps.

The head of their column passed the Lacy house at daybreak; nothing was encountered until reaching the field this side of Wilderness run; here the flankers on the right became engaged with the enemy's skirmishers. As soon as the head of the column emerged into the field a rebel battery at Tuning's opened on them, fifty shots were fired but no one was hurt; the column halted, a strong skirmish line advanced across the run up the slope covered with thick pines, and as soon as they showed themselves in the edge of Tuning's field they received a musketry fire, and fell back; perhaps one Div. of the 9th Corps was deployed in line of battle on the left of the road in the hollow. A long consultation now ensued between Genls. Burnside, Parke and Col. Comstock. No one liked the idea of taking the hill by assault, and the reluctance was increased by an occasional cannonball coming down among the party. The idea was entertained that Gen. Crawford was to advance and join on the right of the 9th Corps, but I explained that if Crawford advanced at all he would close on the right (left?) of Griffin, and advance up the pike away from the 9th Corps. More than an hour was lost doing nothing while the firing over by Wadsworth grew very heavy; they finally concluded to abandon this route and move further to the left, arriving at a point half way between Tuning's and Tap's; the Corps became engaged there about noon, with no decisive result, and fell back towards evening and entrenched.

At daybreak already the enemy opened with several batteries on the left and front of Griffin's line; the woods prevented their seeing anything directly, yet their fire was quite effective.

Two of our batteries replied, firing at the smoke; these guns of ours were situated a quarter of mile South of the pike behind the line of breastworks which had been marked out that morning; they are indicated on Capt. Cope's map. The disposable reserves of Griffin were engaged all morning building these breastworks, aided by the batallion of regular engineers, and on the left by the heavy Artillery Brigade of Col. Kitching who reported that morning. The latter part of the day Kitching's Brig. occupied the 2^d line behind the breastworks on the left of Griffin; they had been in a little fight in the morning over by the 2^d Corps, losing some 50 or 70 men. On their left the Penn. Reserves took up the line of embankments connecting still further to the left with the 9th Corps. As evening came on there was a prospect for a quiet night: suddenly the report spread around that the whole 6th Corps had been captured including "Uncle John"; they were on our right somewhat in advance, and only had 2 Div., Getty being over with Hancock. The reports of Gen. Sedgwick's Staff officers only increased the stampede and both Gen. Grant's and Gen. Meade's HdQrs. were in the greatest possible state of excitement. The nearest troops at hand were at once seized upon to go to the rescue, comprising Crawford's Div. and Coulter's Brig. lying on the Germanna plank road. I took Crawford's Div. over there; as we came upon the Germanna road we found it filled with an excited crowd of soldiers apparently scared to death; they amounted in number to almost a division, and not a single one could tell why he was running; not a shot could be heard, and as we moved towards Germanna ford the stragglers quickly ceased.

Our column halted about a mile from Spotswoods, and riding forward we found the hospitals at that point perfectly quiet, and no enemy had made his appearance there. We therefore turned the left, and went up a little road, following the north bank of a small stream which runs past the sawmill; in course of half a mile word came in that Gen. Sedgwick was not taken, and that a part of his line was still in position; everything being quiet Gen. Crawford returned to his old place at 11 o'clock. I was subsequently informed by the Colonel of the 33^d Pa. who was lying with his reg^t. in front of Griffin's right, that the rebels halted their line for the night within 100 yds. of his front, and that they spent most of the night hunting for water, and congratulating themselves upon the way in which they had made the Yankees run.

Saturday, May 7th

This was a quiet day. The forenoon was spent in strengthening the lines along Griffin's and Crawford's front; considerable timber was slashed. The enemy sent an occasional shell at Griffin's left; picket firing was kept up on the pike; during the night the enemy was heard cutting timber, and it was evident that he was fortifying himself just as we were. During the day sounds were heard towards the west resembling explosions, from which it was surmised that the enemy were abandoning their depot at Orange C.H. About noon orders were issued for a movement towards Spottsylvania C.H., the 5th Corps to take the advance. The afternoon was accordingly spent in making the necessary preparations;

getting off the wagons and wounded; the ambulance trains did not move until the last moment; 500 wounded were left owing to want of transportation; they were recovered a week afterwards together with those at Robertson's tavern, under a flag of truce.

After sunset the Corps started in the following order: Gen. Cutler with the 4th Div., 2^d Div. under Gen. Robinson, next Penna. Reserves, followed by G.K.W., Gen. Griffin bringing up the rear. The picket line was to be relieved at 3 o'clock in the morning. The night was very dark, no moonlight. Some little delay was caused by the 2^d Corps lying in the road behind their entrenchments; behind the left of the 2^d Corps the road was very muddy, causing the men to straggle very much.

As this ends the operations in the Wilderness, it is the proper place to give approximately the Losses. (See last page.)
Sunday, May 8

At 1 A.M. the head of the column reached Todd's tavern, where Gen. Meade was halting. At this point the Cavalry filled the road, and some time was lost to get them out of it. Gen. Merritt, with the main body of the Cavalry was about two miles ahead. Gen. Warren was told by Gen. Meade that the Cavalry would keep out of the way, and leave us to take the advance on the main road. Moving on we reached Merritt's HdQrs. about 3 o'clock, and found that he had just received an order from Gen. Meade directing him to take the advance and clear the way; he stated that he had been fighting and driving Stuart's Cavalry up to a late hour the previous evening. At 3 1/2 A.M. the Cavalry moved on, and our own Div^s. as fast as they came up were camped

along side the road in columns of regiments, and rested. They were very tired.

Gen. Merritt became engaged at once; after fighting for over an hour, and driving the enemy perhaps a mile, it became evident that his progress was too slow. Gen. Robinson now moved on with his Div.; it was about 6 o'clock and broad daylight. He deployed about two brigades in line of battle with skirmish line, the rest of the troops following in column; numerous barricades were encountered before reaching Alsop's farm, and trees were felled across the road; considerable loss occurred in removing the barricades, several pioneers were killed and wounded while chopping; their artillery fire from two guns at the Alsop house was pretty much at random and did not do much damage. The troops were very much hurried and excited, in fact, really frightened from some inexplicable cause; the tendency to stampede was so great that Gen. Warren himself had to go to the front of the leading brigade.

About 8 1/2 A.M. the brigades of Gen. Robinson's emerged from the woods into the open fields at Alsop's and made a dash at the action behind the house coming within an ace of capturing it; this section opened fire again up on the hill behind the blacksmith shop.

As the road strikes Alsops, it forks, the two forks uniting again a mile further on. Robinson advanced along the left fork with his Div. moving rapidly. Coulter's Brig. was on the left, Lyle on the right, and the Md. Brig. further to the left, and somewhat to the rear. They advanced up to the point of woods

where Sedgwick was killed, without much fighting; here they halted for 10 minutes to take breath; the line was reformed in columns of regiments with a strong skirmish line and commenced to advance over the field toward the B.S. shop. Up to this time we thought we were fighting Cavalry. When halfway across the field and on the point of rising the crest, the enemy opened with sharp musketry on the front and right; the fire was unexpected and threw the two Brigades into confusion; they presently broke and ran and could not be rallied until they reached the woods north of Alsop's. Gen. Robinson was struck in the knee at the first fire, which left the men without their commander at a critical moment. The enemy's fire was not heavy enough to justify the breaking of the men, it was chiefly owing to their being excited, somewhat scared, and hurried entirely too much. The pursuit of the enemy was not vigorous, and was met in the front piece of woods by the Md. Brig. who checked them.

Prisoners stated that they had two Brigades of Longstreet's, one of them was Barksdale's old Miss. Brig., and Cavalry in addition: they were posted around the intersection of the Buchanan road; their entrenchments did not amount to much. From what I could ascertain, I should judge that these brigades had been there some little time, and that they were not sent there as a direct consequence of our leaving the Wilderness the previous night. Longstreet's advance however commenced arriving soon after.

While this was going on the rest of the Corps kept coming up. Griffin who had passed Crawford on the way took the right

fork, forming Bartlett in line of battle in the ravine below Alsop's, he advanced, with Ayres and Sweitzer marching on the road; when Bartlett got halfway across the field he received the same fire that had driven back Robinson, the greater part of his Brigade staggered, and finally commenced to run back; it so happened that Ayres' men in the road had good cover, the road being sunken about 3 feet below the level they held their ground, thus affording a rallying point for Bartlett's men, and in a short time the line was re-established through the personal exertions of Genls. Griffin, Ayres, and Bartlett; they advanced a little way farther and held the line our Corps occupied while north of Spottsylvania.

During the episode Crawford had come up following Robinson's track, he drove the enemy out of the woods on Griffin's left, and formed line in the further edge of the timber. One of our rifled batteries had taken position near Alsop's, and opened, soon silencing the enemy's section, and burning the shop and house; the enemy then opened from a 12 pdr. battery on the Buchanan road their shots fell south of Alsop's, and did not do much damage. Col. Wainwright now placed two light 12 batteries on the road between Griffin and Crawford under a lively musketry fire; they did great execution, driving the enemy back into the woods so that Griffin's skirmishers could advance into the orchard around the burnt house. It was becoming evident that the was being reinforced; he commenced to push through pines on Griffin's right with the evident intention of turning his right flank.

Gen. Cutler had now come up; his men had had several hours rest, and were in good condition; he was formed in the ravine, and faced so as to drive the enemy out of the woods on Griffin's right; he advanced in fine style, all his bands playing, drove the enemy through the woods without halting, establishing his line so as to connect with Griffin. The enemy still kept up fire from two pieces, doing us considerable damage, they were located in a sunken road, so that our guns could not get at them; they fired all day.

It was now 2 o'clock and matters were becoming more settled; the men commenced entrenching themselves of their own accord; the 2^d Div. was getting into shape again; but little could be expected any more that day of the 1st and 4th Divs. as they had fought pretty heavily, and lost considerable. The Penna Reserves were in better condition than the other three Divs.

The pickets of Genls. Griffin and Crawford had now come in from the Wilderness, and after resting half an hour, were turned over to Gen. Crawford in a body, there being no time to distribute them among their regiments just then.

For several hours past the enemy's wagon-train was seen moving on the Catharpin road.

Later in the afternoon two Divs. of the 6th Corps came up on our left where Crawford was; they were to push forward yet that evening, and assault the enemy.

After considerable delays [the] Jersey Brigade of Gen. Neale's Div. advanced up the road, towards the burnt house; they were speedily repulsed by the enemy with much loss. It was growing

dark, and Gen. Crawford's troops now advanced on the left, passing into the woods beyond the open ground in our front; it so happened that a body of troops belonging to Ewell were marching towards us by the flank, coming upon Crawford, unexpectedly, they were driven back by our men for 3/4 of a mile in confusion; nearly a hundred prisoners were taken; after nightfall Crawford fell back, leaving a skirmish line well out; this attack demonstrated that they had no entrenchments in our immediate left front, although some of the men on Crawford's right obtained possession of some rifle pits for a short time, but were soon driven out again. Had the attack been made in stronger force as was originally intended, it would, under the circumstances have doubtless been successful. During the night everything was quiet. One flag was taken from Ewell.

Monday, May 9th

Quiet in the morning. Wagon trains of the enemy moving on the Buchanan road. Completed entrenchments along Griffin's and Cutler's front, and put 3 more batteries in position there. As Sedgwick's troops came up they went in line on our left and commenced to entrench, Crawford falling back behind them.

About 11 o'clock saw a small squad of Rebel Cavalry at Pritchard's house in the fields on our right. Sent a Brig. from the 2^d Div. over there driving them off; this brigade deployed a very long picket line making a kind of a connection between our right and Griffins Div. 2^d Corps who were coming down on our right from Todd's tavern with the intention of crossing the Po river; they moved very slowly and opened a battery on the

wagons about noon scattering them and the attendant Cavalry escort. Gibbon's skirmishers crossed the Po before evening.

In the afternoon Crawford moved to the right of Cutler forming line along a little brook running into the big bend of the Po, and throwing out skirmishers.

By order of Gen. Meade, Gen. Sedgwick was placed in command of the line, embracing his Corps, and the greater part of ours, say the 1st and 4th Divs. The enemy had opened from some additional batteries during the day, enfilading part of Cutler's line, and doing considerable damage by their random firing. Sharpshooters were very active, one of their victims being Gen. Sedgwick, sitting on a cracker box at the time up in what was known then as the salient. Orders were received to advance Crawford's skirmishers; they did so at 6 P.M. going a considerable distance towards the blockhouse which was plainly seen from a point to the right of Pritchard's. This block-house (Gen. Lee's HdQs. on the 3th) was situated on the Buchanan road, a little over half a mile East of the covered bridge across the Po. Our men got within 1/3 of a mile of it, and then fell back at nightfall, contrary to Gen. Warren's orders and those of Gen. Crawford. They were under the impression that a line of battle was advancing on them, and did not stop long enough to fire on them and find out for certain. It was too late to advance them again that night. There was at this time a gap of 1/3 m. between Crawford's right prolonged, and the bend of the Po. No apprehension was entertained of the enemy's coming around

there, as the high ground at Pritchard's held by us, controlled it. I mention this distance of $1/3$ mile, because there was plenty of room for the greater part of Gibbon's Div. to have moved in there the next morning and thus saved itself the delay of crossing the Po river twice, losing half a day. This fact was known to us at the time, and moreover that evening the enemy were not yet entrenched.

Tuesday, May 10

In the morning the enemy was observed building breastworks to resist both our attack and the threatened one of the 2^d Corps; two batteries were posted $1/2$ mile West of Pritchard's; they opened fire on all the working parties in sight, and drove them away; the rebels replied from the neighborhood of the blockhouse, and also East of it, with 20 pdr. Parrotts.

One of the Brigades of the 2^d Div. was moved further to the right so as to connect more directly with Gibbon's left. After the cannonade was over I went over to the 2^d Corps to see what they were doing. By 10 o'clock Gen. Gibbon was across the Po connecting with Barlow who had come down on the other side of the river. The Po at Graves' crossing is a sluggish stream, 75 feet wide, and from 4 to 8 feet deep, with steep banks 12 feet high; two bridges were built to pass over Art. and troops. In the bend of the Po three 2^d Corps batteries were placed; these to some extent enfiladed the enemy's position in Crawford's front; skirmishing was going on along the river bank near the County bridge. The rebel side was lower than ours, a large open meadow giving them but little protection; Barlow was south

of the Buchanan road, extending down to Talley's mill on Glady run. Below the bridge the river made a small horseshoe-bend to the West; here some of Barlow's men had crossed on trees lying across. It was an ugly stream to cross under fire, unless the movement was made along both banks simultaneously. Several attempts were made from Gibbon's guns to make a diversion in favor of Crawford, but had to be given up, as the balls would sometimes fly over into Cutler's line, and often fall into the skirmish line of Crawford. Seeing no preparations going on to force a crossing, I returned to our Corps. At noon Gen. Gibbon had withdrawn his Div. to the north side of the Po again, and Barlow was preparing to follow him. In consequence of this the enemy's skirmishers on Crawford's right became more active, making it unsafe to appear on the open ground near Pritchard's. The enemy under Heth followed Barlow and brisk fighting ensued; after it was over Barlow commenced to entrench a line North and N.W. of Pritchard's, which ultimately connected with the breastwork built by the Md. Brig. on our right.

In the afternoon Gibbon and Birney got into line behind Crawford and Cutler to help us make an assault at 5 P.M. As it was necessary for us to advance our line a little so as to get room to form our lines of battle far enough forward, Crawford and Cutler made an advance about 3 P.M. They did not succeed in this object but were repulsed with heavy loss; the enemy were well entrenched with plenty of Artillery in position, enfilading both Cutler's and Crawford's line. Some of Crawford's men claim that the enemy ran out of their breastworks--a doubtful statement--

which is often made after an attack has proved a failure. This preliminary attack showed that the enemy was all set for us, and that the subsequent attack would have but little chance. Nevertheless the 2 Divs. of Gibbon and Birney made a charge about 6 o'clock and were repulsed even more disastrously; in fact Birney's men became scared and ran back a quarter of a mile behind some old breastworks. The loss in these two attacks was at least 2000 and it is doubtful whether the enemy lost over 200.

Before dark Crawford's line was pretty well entrenched, with the right thrown back.

Wednesday, May 11

This was a quiet day comparatively speaking. During the day preparations were made to enable to move the 2^d Corps to the left and assault the next day at daybreak. Barlow's Div. was moved away from our right, Bartlett's Brig. going over there; the pickets however of the 2^d Corps remained yet; nothing special occurred on their main line. In the afternoon a small body of rebel infantry made their way around the left of the 6th Corps, penetrating almost up to our ammunition trains. Lt. Mackenzie, with 2 N.J. Regts. of the 6th Corps drove them across the swamp back to their Cavalry line; here a picket line was left. Several companies of heavy artillery were then posted around our trains and hospital so as to guard against a repetition of the affair.

Upton's Brig. 6th Corps captured part of Enemy's line in [the] morning but could not hold them. Gen. Hancock made his Hd. Qrs.

at Alsop's, near us that night.

Thursday, May 12th

At 3 A.M. I went over to the camp of Kitching's Heavy Art. Brig., lying near Army Hd. Qrs. on the Todd's tavern road, and brought them over to where the 2^d Corps had been on our right; we arrived in the grey of the morning; Bartlett's Brig. was already leaving, and the 2^d Corps pickets had been withdrawn; it became daylight before the pickets were re-established, considerable skirmishing taking place, especially on the left of the Heavys where Col. Bankhead placed the Md. Brig. in line. The enemy opened on us with several batteries, but showed no infantry force this side of the Po except skirmishers. The news of Hancock's successful assault was received at this time, and created much enthusiasm among the troops, a cheer being given for every captured piece. It was now 6 A.M. and all the batteries on our line opened so as to create a diversion in favor of the 2^d Corps, with what success could not be ascertained; at 7 A.M. the 6th Corps on our left made preparations to attack the enemy as a diversion, when it was discovered that the enemy was preparing a demonstration on their right; Bartlett's Brig. was therefore sent to their support, and took position between Griffin's left and the right of the 6th Corps. The enemy's attack there amounted to nothing. Bartlett had been turned over to Gen. Meade temporarily. At 8 A.M. peremptory and reiterated orders came from Gen. Meade for us to attack along our whole line; skirmishing was going on as usual and we had no evidence that the enemy was weakened in our front. The

attack was made by us at 8:15 A.M. and quickly repulsed us as was anticipated; it was the 4th or 5th unsuccessful assault made by our men, and it is not a matter of surprise that they had lost all spirit for that kind of work; many of them positively refused to go forward as their previous experience had taught them that to do so was certain death on that front.

Contingent orders having been received, in the event of a failure to move to the support of Hancock, steps were at once taken to do so, and before 12m. Cutler's Div. was on the march: he took along Lyle's Brig. of the 2^d Div. Griffin followed him but did not become engaged that day; the Md. Brig. started but was ordered back. Gen. Crawford with the addition of Col. Kitchen's command and Coulter's Brig. 2^d Div. held the entire line.

Cutler's Div. went in at once as soon as they arrived; the 2^d Corps was very much disorganized, a large portion of it being huddled together in one angle of the captured works and firing almost at random. It was intended that as soon as our Corps had joined the 2^d that the two were to advance and follow up the enemy, but it soon became apparent that we would do well if we held the captured line and carried off the guns; the enemy still held on firmly opposite the left of the 6th and on the right of the 2^d. At 6 P.M. the enemy made an attempt to regain their line, but were repulsed. The firing on the part of Cutler's men continued most of the night. Late in the afternoon Gen. Rice received his mortal wound; our principal losses there were from artillery fire.

The 5th Corps now consisted of Crawford's Div. and the

Heavy Art.; it commenced to rain heavily towards evening, changing the country into a sea of mud. We made our Hd. Qrs. for the night at a sawmill N.E. of Laurel hill. Great apprehensions were entertained as to the ability of Crawford to hold his line if the enemy attacked him in the morning. The cavalry being all gone there was nothing to give us any warning on our right flank.

Friday, May 13th

Went over to Crawford's at daybreak, nothing going on for several hours, waiting for orders. The rain ceased, but the mud increased as there was no drying wind. At 6 A.M. received notice that the enemy had left the immediate front of the 2^d and 6th Corps, and that they were feeling out to find where he was. Deserters reported that he had fallen back to a new line two miles further to the rear. At 7 A.M. Crawford's skirmishers pushed out to see whether the enemy was still in our front; found him in full force, rather stronger, if anything than the day before. Towards noon Griffin's Div. returned, and afterwards Cutler. Lyle's Brig. of Cutler's Div. was sent to support Gen. Ricketts on the right of the 6th Corps. Gen. Ricketts held the abandoned line of the enemy and was skirmishing with him at the junction of his new line, with his old line in our front. Hopes were entertained during the day that the enemy would come out and attack the 2^d and 6th Corps, but they were not realized.

In the afternoon the Heavy Art. Brig. was withdrawn from the extreme right, and took up a new line to the West and North

of Alsop's, which they entrenched; this was done to protect our rear. All quiet in the afternoon. At 5 P.M. received orders to be ready to move to the left during the night with our entire command. Towards evening had another shower. At 8 P.M. orders were issued for the move. The Art. Brig. was to move past Army Hd. Qrs. and the troops along a road to be indicated by Capt. Paine. At 10 P.M. Gen. Griffin's Div. started; according to our orders we were expected to march all night, get into position on the left of Burnside's in an unknown country, in the midst of an Egyptian darkness, up to our knees in mud, and assault the enemy's position which we had never seen, at 4 o'clock in the morning, in conjunction with the 9th Corps who had been whipped the day before, and felt in fine spirits for such work.

Col. Bates was left behind in charge of the pickets.

Saturday, May 14th

The route of march was past the Landron house, then across the fields through an orchard and a narrow muddy road to the Ny river; this was knee-deep and had to be waded; across the Ny the route of march followed no road, but went across the fields through a piece of woods where a track had been cut. Near the Fredericksburg pike the route led across some large open fields; here a dense fog began to settle, so that not even the numerous fires that had been built to guide the column could be seen. The men were very tired wading through the mud and fell asleep all along the way. By 2 o'clock I went ahead to find Gen. Burnside and try to ascertain something about the locality;

found him after half an hour's search, dark as pitch all the time. Neither he nor Gen. Parke could give me any information, and Col. Marshall had to be sent for; he went along to the head of our column which had halted near the Beverly house. It was now 4 o'clock, and daylight was approaching; the only troops on hand were 1200 fagged out men of Griffin's Div. and it was fully 7 o'clock before Gen. Cutler got 1300 of his men together. We found that Col. Marshall was holding the road and the Beverly house with a skirmish line of his dismounted men. As fast as our men came up they were placed in line behind a breastwork across the road, which the 9th Corps had thrown up after their repulse from Spotts. C.H. At 6 A.M. skirmishing commenced, the enemy's skirmishers having pushed out to see whether any one was there. It was light enough now to see the enemy's position near the C.H. They were entrenched along their whole front. Off to the S.E. of the Beverly house was a high hill, the Jet house; it became apparent that as long as the enemy held it with Artillery our position around the Beverly house would be untenable; accordingly, a few hundred men (regulars) under Lt. Col. Otis, was sent to take it. Only a few cavalrymen were seen through our glasses, and while he was going up the place was shelled from the Beverly house. Hampton's Cavalry retired from it, after some little resistance. Otis commenced to entrench around the house, and while doing so Col. Upton's Brig. 6th Corps came up and relieved him, having been sent by Gen. Meade himself. Before Upton was fairly established a large force of the enemy's

infantry moved against him, coming from the C.H., they made him clear out pell mell, and came near catching the Genl. Comdg. the A.P. himself. The balance of the 6th Corps had now come up, and massed around the Anderson house. Gen. Meade ordered them to retake the place, and ordered us to support them by a battery and a brigade. Gen. Wright opened fire from two batteries near the Anderson at 6 1/2 P.M., and as soon as they had expended their ammunition, Gen. Ayres moved up and occupied the place the enemy having left it in the afternoon; the two brigades of Gen. Wright came up subsequently; that night the place was entrenched and was not again attacked. Our troops this evening were in the following position. Gen. Griffin on the left of the pike, Gen. Cutler on the right connecting with the 9th Corps, and Crawford in reserve near Beverly's. Our pickets came in towards evening, not having been attacked as long as they remained on the right. Our artillery was in good position, including one 20 pdr. battery on the pike. The enemy's troops in our front were Hill's Corps.

Sunday, May 15th

The day was spent getting everything in order, collecting stragglers, etc.; two roads were cut through the woods so as to have communication with Jet's house without crossing the Ny. river. Heavy thunderstorm in the afternoon. Owing to the muddy condition of the roads, thereby delaying the trains, we were short of forage and rations for officers that day. Late in the afternoon the 9th Corps became apprehensive of an attack; we were therefore ordered to attack the enemy's breastworks, full

of men as soon as the attack on the 9th commenced. Troops stood under arms from 5 o'clock until 9 P.M., in fact they remained that way all night, making themselves as comfortable as possible.

Monday, May 16

Weather fine in the morning. Nothing particular occurred in the forenoon. Orders were received at 12:30 to advance our pickets in Griffin's front over the open field, as close to their entrenched line as possible. This order was subsequently rescinded, or rather modified; no advance took place on Griffin's right, where the enemy would have inflicted great loss upon us, but towards evening Bartlett's Brig. on the left advanced their pickets some distance, taking possession of an abandoned rifle pit of the enemy; Gen. Ayres' pickets who connected with the 6th Corps likewise advanced in conjunction with them for nearly half a mile. By the advance at this point we came in possession of the spur of a ridge running N.E. and S.W., behind which a number of batteries could be placed to enfilade a part of the enemy's line near Dabney's house opposite Cutler's Div. and part of the 9th Corps. After explaining the matter at Hd. Qrs. it was determined to avail ourselves of this shelter; accordingly, during the night roads were cut through the woods and two bridges built so as to make the point accessible. Another place was prepared for batteries in rear of Bartlett, but was not used. During the afternoon there was a slight Artillery duel between the 9th Corps and the enemy at the C.H., causing the latter to pack up and get into line. Places for 18 pieces were prepared on the spur above mentioned.

Tuesday, May 17th

No fighting to day. By the shifting about of the different Corps, it became our lot again to hold the right flank of the Army; a new line was selected and entrenched. The left of Griffin was [moved] forward out of the woods. Cutler's line was entrenched from the pike to the Ny, and thrown back some distance; the entrenched line was then continued across the Ny, not continuous but only at the most prominent points, following the banks of a stream from 1/2 to 1 m. N.W. of the Fredericksburg pike. Towards evening a new position on our left was marked out for Crawfords Div. which he took up during the night entrenching it; he protected the left flank of the row of batteries on the ridge, his left was about 1 mile N. of the Myers or Jet house.

That night we held about the entire front of our army, the 2^d, 6th and 9th Corps having gone around to our extreme right somewhere near the Landron house to see whether they could not catch the rebels a napping. They had at least one eye open and were protected by acres of impenetrable slashing; the expedition was unsuccessful.

Wednesday, May 18

At daylight took the Md. Brig. up to the Myers house to reestablish the picket line vacated by the 6th Corps and make a connection with Crawford's left; no opposition. Our batteries opened along our entire line and fired for several hours, the enemy not replying at first; the only apparent effect was to drive them out of their camps behind their breastworks; at 7 1/2 they opened with more vigor keeping it up for 15 minutes;

they showed a new battery on the left in a point of woods near an old brown meeting house.

At 9 o'clock a part of Kitching's command was sent to the Myers house; the rest remained at Anderson's.

The enemy opened again in the afternoon, many of the shots reaching the Ny below the Beverly house; the Art. fire continued until sunset; for a time our batteries were silenced, especially Taft's 20 pdr. battery, upon which the Enemy's fire was concentrated; but few were killed. All this Artillery firing amounted in the end to nothing more than an immense waste of ammunition. Late in the afternoon the 6th Corps returned relieving the Md. Brig. and Col. Kitching's command at the Myers house; the former encamped near the Myers house, and the latter went across the Ny river, taking position near the Harris house together with a battery. Towards dusk the enemy drove in Crawford's pickets, but not attacking his main line; the line was reestablished without much fighting, Col. Coulter being wounded in the ribs.

Thursday, May 9th

In the morning everything was quiet; the enemy made no further demonstrations on Crawford's left, and showed no great force there. The balance of the 9th Corps withdrew from Cutler's right, whose skirmishers became engaged with theirs following; some movements in the main body of the Enemy's infantry were also observed from Cutler's front which would indicate that they were moving to our left. The Heavy Art. command of Genl. Tyler assigned to the 2d Corps at the time, were in part posted near Kitching and came in reserve. About 5 o'clock heavy firing

was heard at the Harris house. I went over to see what was the matter. Found Kitching heavily engaged, also the battery. Gen. Tyler was then forming that portion of his command, which had been in reserve, in the pike near the open field south of Harris's. A small body of our Cavalry came running down the pike in great confusion, likewise wagons at the top of their speed, many without drivers. A few musket shots were fired from the right of the pike, showing that the enemy's skirmishers must have crossed it; the Heavy Art. was now moving into the woods, taking a direction which would bring them to the right of Kitching; they moved on in fine style two ranks deep; the officers much excited; I saw two prisoners representing two divisions of Ewell's Corps--Gordon and Early. The attack being plainly made in force, I hastened back to the Beverly house, and brought up the Md. Brig.; orders were also dispatched to Gen. Crawford on the extreme left to bring his Div. to the right. When the Md. Brig. arrived the Heavy's were still holding their ground, many wounded were being brought to the rear; Col. Bankhead went into action with the Md. Brig.; it so happened that the 1st Md. Vet. regt. was coming from Fredericksburg on its return from furlough; finding the enemy across the road, they at once pitched in, without waiting for orders, driving him off, and effecting a junction with the Md. Brig. Gen. Birney coming up at this time I assisted him to get his large division into position. By the time they got in line with the rest of the troops, it was dark, and the fight pretty well over. I scarcely think they fired a shot, especially as the Md. Brig. was principally in their front; the teams of two

wagons were shot in the road, but no wagons were lost. Tyler's command had never been in action before, but ere all drilled; the fighting was done as if on parade, and loss correspondingly heavy; the idea of fighting under cover seemed to be unknown. The whole line, perfectly dressed, stood unprotected in an open field, and fired as if on drill, scores of men falling all the time; ten yards in their rear was a fence in a little raised bank which would have given them very good cover, and enabled them to do the same execution; I think, however, that this unbroken front of Heavys, with new muskets and uniforms, taking the rebel fire without flinching, scared back the rebels as much as the musketry fire. A thick cloud of powder smoke hung over everything, especially in the ravine between the two lines and I am sure that many of our men were killed by our own fire. Gen. Hunt and I myself were fired at in that way. Gen. Crawford arrived at dark, going in position behind Kitching but not becoming engaged.

The whole affair reflected great credit upon the Heavy Artillery, and the honors belong exclusively to them and the Md. Brig. Loss perhaps 1300 killed and wounded. To aid Ewell's attack Hill made a demonstration on Cutler, but without effect.

Friday, May 20th

The Md. Brig. returned to the Beverly house. The enemy had retired during the night, withdrawing his entire force to the west side of the Ny; many stragglers were picked up by Birney's men, and all of our wounded men that had fallen into the

Enemy's hands the previous evening. The country that Ewell had to advance over was very unfavorable for him; a very thick scrubby pine woods, with but two narrow wood roads; he could bring up no artillery, and I doubt whether he had a chance to deploy more than half of his force effectively. Our loss in dead lying on the battlefield was at least four times that of the rebels; the majority were shot in the head. Crawford remained in his position all day; the position that he had held on the previous day on our left was completely covered by the combined advance of the 6th and 9th Corps on the left flank of the Army on the 19th. These Corps entrenched themselves during the night; so that Gen. Wright was enabled to spare Russell's Div. I went over with Gen. Russell who relieved Birney's and Tyler's command.

The remainder of the day passed off quietly, the 2^d Corps leaving early in the morning. The road to Fredericksburg was unobstructed.

In the morning orders were issued for an ultimate change of base to the White house; it was hoped that by a rapid movement we would be able to place ourselves across Lee's communications between him and Richmond.

Saturday, May 21st

The morning was spent in preparation to move; the Artillery began to move towards Anderson's at 10 A.M. As Gen. Russell was to move first, and take position on the south bank of the Ny near Anderson's, Gen. Crawford did not get started until 10 1/2, Kitching, the Md. Brig. and Art. following. By 11 1/2 they were past Anderson's. Their movements at this point could be seen

by the Enemy; they fired some shots at Cutler's line, and stood to arms. Griffin and Cutler moved at the same time, near 12 o'clock, Cutler bringing up the rear; the enemy followed closely with skirmishers, down to the banks of the Ny below the Beverly house, capturing some of Cutler's rear skirmishers. At this point they were checked by Russell's men. Considerable cannonading was heard at the 6th Corps front. Marched rapidly towards the East; met Gens. Grant and Meade at the Massaponax ch.; crossed the telegraph road 1 mile south of the church; thence the road followed the top of the bluff on the Eastern bank of the Po, the valley of which was two miles wide. The movement of our Corps was plainly seen from the enemy's signal station on the other side, who signalled everything as it passed to Spotts. C.H., our own signal men reading their messages constantly. At 5 1/2 P.M. we reached the bridge over the Po at Guinea's; the enemy's cavalry made some resistance, but were dislodged in half an hour, principally by Gen. Meade's escort. The bridge was surrounded by swamps and dikes answering as breastworks, the river was unfordable, so that even a moderate force could have held it for a long time; we were fortunate in forcing a passage so quickly. The enemy was rapidly pursued up the hill to Catlett's. Here it commenced to rain heavily. At the forks of the road a halt was made and instructions asked for. The right fork leads to Thornburg and Mud Tavern on the telegraph road, and the left fork across the Ta to Madison's ordinary and Nancy Wright's on the telegraph road.

Gen. Crawford was put in position on the former road,

sending his skirmishers out 1 1/2 m. where they met the enemy's Cavalry videttes. I went out the left fork with Kitching's Brig. to take possession of the bridge over the Ta, and push on to Madison's ordinary if possible. A small body of Cavalry, 2 companies, preceded us, they chased a few cavalrymen; we met nothing; arrived at Madison's at 9 P.M.; men tired, and worn out, only 500 out of 1500 came up: so much Dutch cursing will never be heard again in the valley of the Ta. At Madison's a road leads to Downer bridge on the Po, and the men were posted as to cover this road and the one to Nancy's. The Cavalry posted videttes out at Lebanon ch. and out the Downer's bridge road. No one went out to the Telegraph road that night, and we did not know what was going on there; our videttes saw no enemy. Our position there was important, giving us a foothold on the plateau of the Telegraph road. The Ta bottom was a mile wide and commanded by the Wooded hills forming the western 2^d bank.

I returned to Catlett's at 9 P.M. and reported, Griffin was encamped at Mrs. Schouler's, Cutler at Catlett's. The Md. Brig. had been left at Guinea's to guard Hd. Qrs. A. of P.

It was Expected this evening that we would move to the Telegraph road at daylight and effect a junction With Burnside who was coming down the Telegraph road via Stannard's mill.

Sunday, May 22^d

Started out before daylight With Robinson's Brig. 4th Div. to relieve Kitching who was tired and hungry; put them in line and threw up breastworks. Two Comp^s. of Cavalry went down the

road to Downer's bridge. I went out to our Cavalry vidette at Lebanon Church; from a point 200 yds. in advance of the church I could see a wagon train and ambulances moving rapidly to the south; no troops were seen accompanying it, or between us and them; the train was continuous while I was there, perhaps 1/2 hour; the vidette told me he had heard wagons rumbling all night. This looked to me like a retreat on part of Lee, and I sent word back to Hd. Qrs. to that effect about 5 1/2 A.M. Tried to get Lt. Col. Pope to make a dash on the wagon train but he would not do it.

Here was a chance to capture the whole of Lee's wagon train; never was the want of Cavalry more painfully felt. Such opportunities are only presented once in a campaign and should not be lost.

Returned to Hd. Qrs.; troops busy entrenching, otherwise quiet; a brigade was pushed out to the mud 'tavern (Col. Bates') sending back word that nothing was there, but that Ewell's and Longstreet's Corps had passed south during the night; this information was received at 8:30. At 7 o'clock I was sent down towards Brooks' store to see whether a road crossed the Ta river in that direction. Could not find any; the whole bottom is intersected with dikes and deep ditches to drain the lowlands, impassable without bridges. Found some of our Cavalry at Brooks'; they having crossed Downer's bridge an hour previous. Popes' Cavalry, which started for the bridge from Madison's early in the morning reported the enemy at Downer's; they must have mistaken our own cavalry for the enemy. Returned via Mrs. Washington's,

reaching Mrs. Schouler's at 10 A.M.

Moved at 10:20, Griffin leading, via Madison's and the Telegraph road, intending to go to Harris's store that night. The rebel trains had all passed; our scort went ahead picking up stragglers, ambulance men, etc. Gen. Wright followed us. Heard nothing of Hill's Corps--he must have taken the Childsburg road. The rear of the rebel army was about 3 hours march ahead of us, and as we had no cavalry we had no expectation of catching up. Our maps told us we would soon encounter the Mat which crosses the Telegraph road; it was anticipated that the Enemy would make a stand on the south side of that stream. None of the people on the road had ever heard of a stream called the Mat. At 1 P.M. struck the Enemy's Cavalry near Dr. Flippo's posted on a wooded height beyond a little run, which must have been the Mat. They had two pieces from which they fired considerably. Bartlett's Brig. deployed and drove them off to the right in course of an hour; one old nigger was badly scared during the fight. The Cavalry was Rosser's, and went towards Bethany Ch. on the Childsburg road; fired at them with a section of Parrotts a mile further on; killed some of our own men. Reached Flippo's at 3 P.M. and Harris's store at 5 P.M.; communicated with Hancock that Evening. Griffin camped near Flippo's, Crawford at the Mill, and Cutler at Bull Ch. One regiment was put on the road to Childsburg by way of precaution. Hd. Qrs. at Dr. Flippo's.

Monday, May 23^d

At 5 A.M. Cutler's Div. moved towards the Telegraph road,

striking it at Newton's tobacco store. Griffin following, then Crawford; no incident of note occurred until we reached Mt. Carmel Ch. Our maps were utterly erroneous, and we had to rely upon guides and general information of the inhabitants. A road turned to the right at this point, leading to Childsburg; a mile beyond the main road forked, one branch leading straight on to Oxford, the other to Chesterfield and R.R. bridge on the left. Our cavalry under Lt. Col. Pope went a mile down the left fork until they were checked by some of the enemy's dismounted cavalry skirmishers, covering some ford on the north side of the river. The troops in the mean time were massed at Mt. Carmel Ch. I went down the direct road across a little run (long creek?) to a point where I could see the river and the R.R. bridge, a mile off to the left. Half a mile further on we struck the enemy's infantry pickets on top of the Bluff North bank. On the south bank of the North Anna a column of infantry was marching down the river with flags flying and bands playing. They must have crossed the river at some point further up (Eutler's bridge?). While making this reconnoissance Torbert's cavalry arrived at Mt. Carmel, informing us that the 2^d Corps was 1 1/2 m. behind; we also learned from Capt. Miller of Gen. Hancock's staff that we were on the road they had expected to take. Our column therefore turned up the right road at Mt. Carmel at 11 A.M. to see if we could not find some other ford further up. We knew there was a ford at Jericho an indefinite locality on the river. We had for a guide an old negro who had not been on the road for

53 years. Marched about 2 1/2 m. and turned down an old road, which our guide informed us led at one time to a ford. Following this road we struck the river at Jericho mills, found a few deserters from Hill, and chased half a dozen mounted home guards; no enemy visible on the opposite bank; there was no real ford here, merely a row boat ferry above the dam; it was determined to cross at once while there as a chance; Bartlett's Brig. waded over and formed line on the other side; his skirmishers soon struck a few of the enemy's. Locomotives were heard 1 1/2 m. off. At 4:30 the ponton bridge was laid, and two divisions across. The batteries had been suitably posted on the north bank to cover the crossing. A prisoner informed us that a division of Hill's Corps was waiting for us behind the R.R. The line of battle as formed as quickly as possible, Crawford who had forded while Cutler was crossing the bridge, went into position on Griffin's left; Cutler took the right. The whole line was formed on the hither edge of a piece of woods between us and the R.R. Two light 12 batteries were brought over as soon as the last of the infantry had crossed, and went into position on the open plain in rear of our line.

At 6 P.M. the enemy made his assault, the heaviest attack being made on Griffin and Cutler. Cutler's line broke, the enemy following until they came within sweep of our batteries, who made short work of the rebels, driving them back to the Rail road. Kitchin's Heavy Art. had been posted so as to form a right flank for Cutler; they held their ground. At nightfall

Cutler's line was established after considerable urging, although the enemy had all left. The whole line was entrenched during the night. The heaviest attack no doubt came upon Cutler. The enemy had no idea that we were so well prepared for them because they marched against Griffin by the flank along a narrow Wood road, the first man being caught being the Col. at the head of his brigade.

Just as the fight commenced, I had been sent back to bring up Gen. Wright, the head of whose column was at Mt. Carmel; the enemy being repulsed they did not cross the river that evening, but encamped at the cross road leading to the ford. Prisoners were taken representing the whole of Hill's Corps. We expected the enemy would renew his attack by daylight.

Tuesday, May 24th

The whole night was spent in issuing rations and bringing up ammunition; as there was only one bridge and a single track up and down the hill on each side, great confusion ensued and the wagons were barely got out of the way by daybreak; by 6 A.M. it was definitely ascertained that the enemy had retired, going towards the junction; many stragglers were picked up. At 7:30 our skirmishers were out as far as we cared to send them. Two divisions of Gen Wright's came across and relieved Griffin and Cutler; on both of our flanks the enemy had thrown up hasty entrenchments, which were abandoned by morning; our own line on the right was pushed forward and strengthened.

It was understood that the 9th Corps was to pass at Oxford or some other ford below us this morning; at 7 o'clock Gen.

Crawford sent a regiment down the south bank to find them; receiving no report from them, his whole division moved down about noon. At 2 1/2 P.M. he formed a junction with Crittenden's Div. of the 9th Corps who had waded the river at a rocky ledge a mile above Oxford; the right of Gen. Crawford struck the enemy and after some skirmishing developed their line well entrenched; it ran from the N. Anna to the Little river; at the latter place our cavalry found the enemy's cavalry, who fired some guns at them. The interval between Crawford's right and that point was about 2 miles.

Later in the afternoon the enemy came around Crawford's right cutting off our communication with him; he refused his right, forming a horseshoe with his back resting against the river, remaining that way all night.

Late in the afternoon a division of the 6th Corps pushed out between Jericho and Crawford, skirmishing somewhat with the enemy and establishing their picket on the rail road. Ayres' Brig. was moved over to old Noel's house, so as to be ready for a move in that direction; Heth's Div. was reported south of us. During the night orders were received to develop the enemy's line with our whole Corps in the morning.

Wednesday, May 25

Moved at daybreak; Griffin taking a road along the R.R., Cutler between him and Crawford. The enemy on Crawford's right had retired during the night, enabling him to post his picket line in the morning where he had it the previous afternoon.

After considerable skirmishing a line was established extending from the river to the south of the R.R. The enemy showed himself in strong force behind his breastworks, and opened a heavy fire whenever our line showed itself; our loss was perhaps 200 for the day. In the afternoon part of the 6th Corps came up on our right; they did not cross Little river, the enemy's cavalry holding the various fords. Some of our Corps and of the 6th commenced to destroy the central road, perhaps 5 miles were destroyed; a good working party would repair it again in 10 days. By night our whole line was entrenched. Two batteries opened fire on Griffin's front at the Anderson tavern without much effect; the enemy replied feebly; all day long their sharpshooters were very active. It was thought that the guns of Willcox on the north bank might enfilade part of the enemy's line in our front; the attempt however was abandoned after one or two trials.

During the day a bridge was built at Crittenden's crossing, likewise one at Quarte's further up.

Thursday, May 26th

Heavy rains during the morning; everything quiet otherwise; began to send Wagons across the river before noon; at 12 M. received orders to be prepared to recross the river at dusk and march to Hanover town on the Pamunkey. This left flank movement was preferred to that on the right flank because we would have only one river to cross, Whereas on the right there would be three; moreover it brought us nearer our base. No attempt on our part had been made to turn the enemy's left flank. After dusk commenced

to cross on a bridge at Quarles' mill, night intensely dark and roads very muddy; it was almost daylight before the rear of the column got over. Up near Mr. Carmel the 6th Corps got across [the] track; the interval was taken advantage of to issue rations. No pursuit was attempted on part of the enemy; the 9th remained to hold the river bank at daylight the next morning. The bridge was destroyed after the pickets had passed.

Friday, May 27th

Passed Mt. Carmel Ch. at sunrise; delay of half an hour to allow wagon trains to pass. Crossed R.R. track on a high bridge; halted for an hour at St. Pauls Ch. water scarce, weather warm. Our original destination was New Castle Ferry, but it was changed to Hanover town in course of the day. Considerable work in finding the shortest and most direct route; picked up a few straggling rebs. The whole country along the road is a dry level; crossed Reedy swamp, an insignificant one, near Hall's.

Camped for the night at Darrell's run. Hd. Qrs. at Mrs. Tuck's two miles from Mongohick Ch.; the 9th Corps was about 5 miles or more behind us. Troops went into camp tired and hot.

Saturday, May 28th

Started early and marched towards Hanover town via Mongohick Ch. and Enfield; reached to river about 9 o'clock, crossed it on two ponton bridges, laid for the Cavalry which had preceded us. Found Russell's Div. 6th Corps encamped on the bottom, perhaps a mile from the river; they were relieved by our arrival; whether they went away or not I do not remember. Our orders

were to take up a position from the Totopotomoy towards Mrs. Newton's near the Pamunkey. Spent several hours reconnoitring the country for the purpose of establishing our lines; could find no Mrs. Viau's. Towards evening got our line established and entrenched, the left resting on the road from Harris's shop to Linney's, passing south of Dr. Brockenbrough's with the right on a little run west of Brockenbrough's. Cavalry became engaged in the afternoon beyond Harris's shop. The left of the 2^d Corps line that afternoon was 1 1/2 m. in advance of our right at Waters', one Brig. supporting the Cavalry. Found the existing maps very erroneous. All quiet during the night.

Sunday, May 29th

Fine morning. 9th Corps moved through our lines up to Harris's shop; after they had passed our Corps moved up. The country had been pretty well reconnoitred in the morning. Considerable confusion was caused getting through the 9th Corps; by 1 o'clock we had a temporary line along Mill Creek--Cutler's right connecting with the 2^d Corps and Crawford's left resting on the Totopotomoy at Mill Creek. At 1 P.M. Gen. Griffin moved across the creek at the mouth of Mill Creek; after getting up the hill into the large field around Mrs. Via's house, he struck the enemy's infantry skirmishers driving them for half a mile or more, his skirmish line for the evening was established across the road to Shady Grove south of Mrs. Via's. During the afternoon the enemy moved considerably in his front towards his left and away from him; it was evident that we would strike the enemy in large force by morning. The reorganized 2^d Div

under Gen. Lockwood was brought across to Griffin's support before night. In consequence of this supposed movement of the enemy to our left it was apprehended that he might be moving towards Linney's corner and get into our rear . A Brigade was sent there after dark, and entrenched itself around Linney's Corner. Found a few Cavalry videttes of ours there at least 4 miles from our left flank.

Hd. Qrs. that night at Norman's house.

Gen. Burnside prepared in the evening to move up the Totopotomoy on the north bank. From a negro information was derived that Lee's Army was near Shady Grove Ch.

Monday, May 30th

During the night the enemy's skirmishers had retired from the immediate front of Griffin; he followed up slowly, striking them again near an abandoned steam saw mill; rebel cavalry was constantly hovering on our left flank on the Mechanicsville pike. In course of the morning Crawford and Cutler crossed, and laid in the Shady Grove road behind Griffin. At noon our skirmishers connected with Burnside's on the other side of the creek, but soon passed them as we pushed forward; one Div. of the 9th Corps crossed subsequently and connected with us on our right. Several prisoners had been taken from Rhodes' Div. who stated that Ewell's Corps was in force at Shady Grove and entrenched.

Griffin was still moving on slowly, skirmishers beyond the saw dust pile in the swamp; the main branch of the Totopotomoy here crosses the Shady Grove road, dividing into a number of branches, the whole forming a thickly wooded swampy piece of

ground to pass over. On the other side of this swampy ravine the enemy was posted in line to receive us. The skirmishing on our left on the Mechanicsville road now increased; we still thought it was cavalry. Gen Crawford sent one Brig. over to attend to them; while they were going over Cutler moved up to the support of Griffin. This Brig. of reserves had scarcely arrived near Bethesda Ch. on the pike, when the enemy's infantry moved down the road to attack them; it was Rhodes' Div. Seeking the best shelter obtainable, the unequal contest was maintained for perhaps 10 minutes, our men then fell back rapidly to the Shady Grove road, the enemy following up. A battery had fortunately been posted at a house near Booker's, (subsequently burnt) they opened fire and served to check the enemy for a little while, until the other Brig. of reserves was placed in line and advanced up to the battery; this checked the advance of the enemy at this immediate point; but he was already attempting to pass around Crawford's flanks, to meet which the scattered brigades of the 2^d Div. were put in line not a moment too soon on Crawford's left by Gen. Warren; Crawford placed Kitching on the right of the battery by the burning house; in course of half an hour the enemy was repulsed, after having made one good effort to drive us off. Great credit is due to this battery which alone kept the enemy back for 5 minutes while the scattered Brig. of reserves was reorganized behind it. Towards evening the Md. Brig. swung around on our left over to the pike, driving back the enemy's pickets from that neighborhood over to the church. The enemy fired from two batteries near the church with but

little effect. By 10 P.M. it was ascertained that the enemy had abandoned the field moving back on the Mechanicsville pike, leaving their wounded and dead in our hands, the latter quite numerous.

This attack of the enemy of course put a stop to our advance towards Shady Grove that day. Hd. Qrs. at Mrs. Via's for the night.

Thursday May 31st

Our skirmishers were pushed out half a mile beyond the church, the enemy having fallen back to a new position perhaps 1 1/2 m. from the church. Spent the morning in reconnoitring. One or two of Gen Burnside's Divs. having come across the creek, Gen. Griffin was moved to the south of the pike. The enemy was not demonstrative during the day in our front. Some cannonading on the right. The Penn^a. Reserve went home to day, their time having expired. That evening the A.A.G. & I.G. of Lockwood's staff were captured while out reconnoitring in their front beyond a wooded swamp. It was understood that the 2^d and 6th Corps would move to our left towards Coal Harbor that night.

Friday, June 1st

Went to picket line beyond Bethesda Ch. having heard reports of the enemy's moving. Saw a column of troops moving at a double-quick to our left towards Coal Harbor; their flankers moved directly along the front of our skirmish line. Went back and reported it to Gen. Meade at the Via House. Gen. Meade at once ordered us to attack the moving column. Gen Lockwood's Div was

got into line as quickly as possible, and commenced to move S.W. from the church at 11 o'clock; Gen. Cutler likewise came into line on his right. As soon as the enemy perceived any signs of our advance he opened with a rifled battery from an entrenched position out in a vast open field.

As it was nearly 5 miles to Coal Harbor, and no connection between us and the 6th Corps, I was sent in that direction with part of the Md. Brig. to find their right and also ascertain the position of the enemy in case he was between us and the 6th Corps.

Marched along with considerable caution, but nothing occurred until I reached Woody's; found a line of entrenchments here, which seemed to have been but recently occupied; ascertained from Woody that McLaw's Div. Longstreet's Corps had left there 10 minutes previous; picked up one of their stragglers confirming it; moved on past Woody's, a mile beyond which I found Upton's Brig. of the 2^d Corps. Explained to Upton that Kershaw had just left, and that it was a good time to pitch in after him before he had time to entrench or form a new line. Went to Gen. Wright's Hd. Qrs. at 1 P.M. and explained matters to him; while there Baldy Smith came up with his troops; they went in on the right of the 6th Corps subsequently.

Started to go back about 3 P.M. taking a shorter road; met an orderly from Gen. Warren directing me to move to the left and connect with a reconnoitring party which he had sent out from his own left. Found part of this force at Mrs. Jenkins' House; they comprised the rest of the Md. Brig. and some other regiment, and were then skirmishing towards the S.W. in a piece

of Woods--the swampy head of the Matadiquin.

I went over to the left of this skirmish line with my command, comprising now the whole of the Md. Brig.; finding a fence with a good field in front of it, I posted them behind it; threw out a strong skirmish line, and commenced to advance, towards the enemy, moved half a mile past a point of woods, when two batteries opened on us from our right and left, and likewise musketry from the enemy's skirmishers line. The line at once broke and ran back out of sight; Maj. Foeltz succeeded in rallying about 30 men; with these I reestablished the line somewhat in the rear by a house; they remained there that night, the enemy not pursuing. Going back to the Brig. I found that they had also run off during the scare; brought them back and entrenched them for the night in a pretty good position. It was now dark, and I returned to Mrs. Jenkins' House. Saw two Brigades rushing through the woods towards the E. running after them I found it was Gen. Lockwood With the other two Brigades of his command; they were lost and had no definite idea where they were going, except in the direction of the firing. I halted them on my own responsibility, and placed them in line, making a pretty fair connection with the Md. Brig. and the main body of our troops around the Ch. with a gap of perhaps half a mile to the latter; everything was safe for the night; it was now 9 o'clock, and starting to go back to Bethesda Ch. with an orderly as a guide, he had his horse drowned in a swamp and I returned to the Mrs. _____ house, remaining there for the night which was very dark, and somewhat rainy.

Saturday, June 2^d

Returned to Bethesda Ch. in the morning; saw that our main line had but barely succeeded in pushing through the woods to the edge of the large open field where the rebel lines were; there was considerable skirmishing there, and also Artillery fire; we had four or five batteries established along our front; they managed to keep down the rebel fire pretty effectively. At an early hour a road was cut through the woods to communicate with the left of our line; Several batteries were moved over, placed in position, and towards noon Gen. Crawford went there taking command of the left of the line; he placed the remnant of the Reserves between the Md. Brig. and Col. Lyles'; to the right of Lyles came Bates, then Kitching whose right connected with the troops under Cutler. On the extreme left a battery was located, so as to cover our flank there; it became engaged with the enemy's batteries several times; several buildings were burnt by our shells behind the rebel lines.

Our entire line at this time was of great length, very nearly four miles, extending from the Shady Grove road to a point a mile S.W. of Woody's; it was mostly a single line, with but few reserves; it was strongest on the right where the enemy was in heaviest force, and kept constantly annoying us; in front of our left the enemy had retired a short distance at daybreak; his line then seemed to run almost south along the bank of a little stream--probably the headwaters of the Guines' mill stream. We felt but little apprehension for our left as long as the enemy kept a heavy force on our right, and in Burnside's

front.

It was Gen. Meade's intention to assault the enemy's position at Coal Harbor the next morning with the 6th, 2^d and Baldy, and in view of this, positive orders were issued for our Corps to move to the left, and close this gap, while the 9th Corps was to retire altogether and mass on our right and rear. Notwithstanding the objections of the two Corps commanders concerned, this movement was insisted upon. At noon already when a portion of Gen. Burnside's right was withdrawn the enemy had moved a brigade down on the north bank of the Totopotomoy. At 4 o'clock in the midst of a heavy thunderstorm the movement was commenced. The enemy must have been expecting it, as they followed up at once in line of battle, driving the 9th Corps skirmish line through a swamp capturing many, and coming in between our line of battle on the right, cutting off about 400 of them who were principally captured. Their infantry moved rapidly along the Shady Grove road toward Armstrong's and Via's where they cut the telegraph wire.

This sudden attack of course put an end to our contemplated movement, and compelled us to act on the defensive at once to avert any positive disaster. Cutler who had not moved yet extended a little to his right; Griffin's Div. which had been chiefly massed around the church was arranged in line of attack, Bartlett in the centre, Ayres on the left and Sweitzer on the right. They moved forward in fine style toward the North and N.W. against a heavy musketry and artillery fire, driving the enemy back to the Shady Grove road, checking his advance completely

in that direction; Bartlett and Sweitzer sustained the heaviest loss, Ayres having moved so as to still guard the Mechanicsville pike with his left and yet form a left flank for Bartlett. It became dark, the enemy still holding the line of the Shady Grove road; Sweitzer was within 200 yds. of the road, his musketry preventing them from working their artillery; several of our light 12 batteries had also got positions close to the enemy and contributed very much toward stopping him for the night. At dusk one Div. of the 9th Corps moved up to Sweitzer's left driving the enemy out of the woods at that point, the remainder of the 9th forming along the Mechanicsville pike, partly behind some breastworks which the Md. Brig. had thrown up some days previous during Crawford's fight with Rhodes. Before dark I went around to the right of the 9th Corps to see how far the enemy's left extended; I went within 50 yds. of the road leading from Mrs. Via's to the Shady Grove road where I could see the end of the rebel line in the Shady Grove road, busy firing at Griffin and Marshall; in about 5 minutes they moved out a line of flankers to protect their left flank. There was a chance here for Potter's Div. to have got into the rear of the rebel line which might have resulted in the capture of Ewell's Corps before night. I took one of Potter's staff officers to the spot who agreed with me; I reported the circumstance to Gens. Potter and Burnside but they took no notice of it. While all the fighting was going on the enemy opened from his batteries to the south and west of Bethesda Ch., making that a very hot place.

About 8 o'clock I started for Gen. Meade's Hd. Qrs. with a message from Gen. Warren and to explain to him the state of affairs and what ought to be done; arrived there at 11 o'clock. Gen. Meade was urged to come there himself in the morning and take command; this he refused at once, saying that at 3 A.M. he had ordered his coffee, at 4 he was going to mount with his staff, and at 6 he would smash the rebel army at Coal Harbor. To the proposition to put one man in command, either Gen. Burnside or Gen. Warren, he was more favorably inclined, but referred me to Gen. Grant; I went there, explained the matter, but the Lt. Gen. did not have much to say one way or another; he did not think it proper to put Gen. Warren over Gen. Burnside; he gave me a note to Gen. Meade, the contents of which I did not learn. However, he (Gen. Meade) dictated a note to Gen. Warren to the effect that he and Gen. Burnside should co-operate, that they should be good boys and not quarrel, that they should attack the enemy at precisely 1800 seconds after 4 o'clock, and that if the enemy gave way at all we should at once follow him closing in on the left and south; inasmuch as the enemy was due north of us this latter injunction was a manifest impossibility.

Returned to Bethesda Ch. at 2 A.M. next morning on a borrowed horse, mine having been stolen at Gen. Meade's Hd.Qrs.

There was some expectation that the enemy would perhaps retire during the night.

Friday, June 3d

At daylight found the enemy still in force along the Shady

Grove road; he had thrown up a high breastwork, behind which he had secure shelter. Heavy firing was steadily kept up on our front; ammunition was getting somewhat scarce as our trains had all been sent off the previous day and could not be brought up in time on account of the mud. There was of course no attack made at 4 1/2 A.M. by the 9th Corps; they gradually made arrangements however to get the greater part of two divisions around so as to attack the enemy's left flank, and by noon had one brigade posted across the eastern end of the Shady Grove road, who were hotly engaged with the enemy all the time.

Our own Corps was strung out in such a thin line that we would do well if we would hold our own. In fact about 2 o'clock the enemy did make an attack on our right centre, which repulsed.

The enemy's force opposed to us was pretty considerable. Opposite Crawford was a Div. of Longstreet, while on our right front and Burnside's was Ewell's Corps and part of Hill's. There was also some of the enemy's infantry north of the Totopotomoy with which Wilson's Cavalry subsequently became engaged near Hawes's shop. At 10 o'clock I went down to Linney's Corner to see how the cavalry was. Found Gen. Wilson there, and say 2000 convalescents, recruits, & under Col. Cesnola. I brought them up the pike and posted them south of Hawes's house on the right flank of the 9th Corps, relieving the Cavalry who rejoined Wilson.

About 2 o'clock the 9th Corps was ready to make the attack on the enemy's left but it was countermanded for some unknown

reason, perhaps because there was a prospect of success. The batteries of the 9th Corps had got around sufficiently far to the right to make the rebel position very unpleasant to them.

The main attack at Coal Harbor having failed, Birney's Div. became disposable and filled up the gap between our left and Smith, relieving at the same time a small portion of the Md. Brig.; his line was very short and thus made our left stronger than any other part of our line.

Nothing further transpired that day; it was probable that the enemy would retire by morning.

Saturday, June 4th

In the morning it was ascertained very soon that the enemy had retired during the night, leaving nothing whatever behind; they had retired west on the Shady Grove road, but not very far as we soon struck their pickets near the saw dust heap; they probably retired to the line they held when we first advanced in that direction. Opposite the right of Cutler, out the pike and all along the west of Bethesda Ch. they were still in force. Our lines were modified during the morning so as to hold the Shady Grove road, and toward noon Burnside left with 2 divisions abandoning a big redoubt which he had commenced to build. Crittenden's Div. remained for some time afterward. They moved on a newly cut road toward Woody's. Toward evening Crittenden moved also, leaving us alone to guard the right. A considerable body of recruits arrived for us under Col. Gibson. Commenced to rain in the evening; enemy quiet on our front during the day. We had no cavalry on our immediate right. Late in the evening orders

were received to push out our lines during the night as closely to the enemy as possible. No preparations had been made for it, and as it could not be accomplished without well digested arrangements there was nothing done for that night.

Night passed quietly.

Sunday, June 5th

In pursuance of the instructions of the previous day I spent the morning reconnoitring the left of our line, so as to push out our lines during the night to the farthest practicable point. Returning to Hd. Qrs. at noon found orders issued for a withdrawal during the night to Leary's north of Coal Harbor; by this movement we would abandon all the ground north and west of the Matadequin, and take up a strictly defensive line behind Allen's mill pond and the branch running into it. All our wagons etc. were sent away during the day. In the afternoon the skirmishers were advanced a short distance out the Shady Grove road, finding some Cavalry videttes and the infantry back in their old original line. The road we were to move on at night was examined during the day and repairs made to the extent that the limited time would allow. Just at sunset Ayres' Brig. made a slight demonstration below the pike and Shady Grove road so as to deceive the enemy. Crawford moved out first, then Cutler, followed by Griffin bringing up the rear with artillery here and there. The night was very dark; in places the road was quite muddy causing the men to straggle along slowly; in consequence it was almost dawn before Griffin's Div. left the ch. The enemy did not follow up at all; the rear of the column

passed Allen's mill dam by daylight, and everything was in camp around Leary's. The road we had taken did not interfere with the dispositions of the 9th Corps who now held the right flank of the Army, our Corps being in their rear.

Monday, June 6th

Troops made themselves comfortable; weather very warm and dusty; commenced issuing clothing and shoes. Sent a regiment down to Allen's mill pond to guard the crossing. Reestablished the 2^d Div. giving the command to Gen. Ayres, and changing thereby to some extent the composition of the old Divisions. Permission to bring up baggage wagons refused. Gen. Burnside called on us for assistance; went down to see; did not think he needed it.

Tuesday, June 7th

The Divs. of Griffin and Cutler moved down to the Chickahominy at daylight, driving the enemy across at Sumner's and the R.R. bridge, Cutler's pickets below the R.R. connecting with the cavalry; the troops opposing them were said to be the Richmond clerks; there was considerable artillery firing on part of the enemy but nothing more. Kept the other two Divs., Ayres and Crawford, under arms all day to go to the assistance of Burnside who was very apprehensive for his right flank, not knowing that it was covered by Allen's mill dam. Down at the R.R. bridge the enemy commenced to fire with their R.R. monitor, the gun a rifled 32 pdr. The enemy's visible force was small at Sumner's bridge, but there were indications of camps in the woods in the rear. A few of our skirmishers got over the creek by accident before they knew

where they were. The question of crossing there in force could only be solved by actual trial.

Nightly alarms occurred in front of the 2^d and 6th Corps. Gen. Griffin connected with Birney on the Chickahominy.

Wednesday, June 8th

Very dusty. All Quiet. Gen. Meade and Gen. Warren rode to old church and 10 miles beyond to Tuffin's place "Roseneath" on the bluff of the Pamunkey--the Hd. Qrs. of Gen. Wilson. Saw review of Nigger Brig. at Old Ch. tavern. Return in the afternoon; saw Mr. Cropsey, an "Enquirer reporter" drummed out, mounted on a horse, with a placard on his back,--"liar &".

Thursday, June 9th

All quiet. The public mind was being prepared for another grand flank movement to the left. Maps of the lower Chickahominy in demand.

Friday, June 10th

I took a ride down to the Chickahominy to our two other Divisions; all quiet down there. Pickets at the R.R. bridge exchanging papers and trading tobacco. Our people taking up rails on the R.R. Got some Richmond papers. All quiet and dusty at Coal Harbor.

Saturday, June 11th

Marched in the morning to Moody's on the Williamsburg pike near New Providence Ch. and camped there with Ayres' and Crawford's Divs. This was south of the R.R. and was merely taken up as an intermediate camping ground preparatory to crossing the Chickahominy at night. Great care was taken that our movement

should not become known to the enemy; pickets were placed all around to keep in stragglers.

A few deserters were brought in from Hill's Corps, who came in opposite Cutler. No force south of White Oak swamp to their knowledge.

Sunday, June 12th

Started on a trip to Long Bridge, and also to reconnoitre best roads to reach it without observation and so as not to interfere with the other two Divs. When they came down from the Chickahominy. Found the Long Bridge a place easily held by the enemy if he were there in force; saw only a few cavalry pickets there, at least they were supposed to be cavalry pickets from their uniform. A few miles below Long Bridge was Pollard's ford, where a flanking party might be sent across to uncover Long Bridge from behind in case the enemy held it too strongly. The approach to the bridge was by a narrow slip of land with a swamp on each side. Returned by way of Emmeus Ch. examining the country. At 5 1/2 P.M. Gens. Grant and Meade reached our Hd. Qrs. at Moody's and at same time we prepared to start; the ponton trains had been sent some hours in advance, the men repairing the road as they went along. Gen. Ayres took the lead, arriving at the head of the turn-off leading to the bridge shortly after dark. The Divs. of Griffin and Cutler were to leave at dark marching by the river road. As the cavalry were just arriving, we bivouacked, and the troops had some sleep. Gen. Wilson had charge of the crossing; to provide against a failure he sent a party to Pollard's ford to cross there; this

party found that ford too deep, but walked over on a log, coming up on the south bank afterwards.

The skirmishers at the bridge had a brisk fight for an hour, and finally got over by 10 o'clock; the night was intensely dark; the bridge as commenced at once by Maj. Ford, and completed by 1 A.M. There was a little island here in the river causing some delay as it divided the bridge in two parts.

Monday, June 13th

The cavalry having crossed, Crawford followed, and then the other Divisions; there were some obstructions in the road which had to be removed, so that by the time that the cavalry was fairly under way, it was near daybreak. At sunrise the plateau was reached some two miles west of the bridge, and Gen. Crawford halted here, going into line, while Wilson pushed on. There was considerable skirmishing with the cavalry while they were pushing through the woods, but they finally reached the New Market cross roads where the road to White Oak swamp crossing turns off; Gen Crawford moved up to this point with two Brigades and a battery, entrenching himself somewhat, so as to hold the position; the cavalry was in his advance, having driven the enemy across White Oak swamp, and also up N. Market road; there was considerable artillery on both sides. The other three Divisions of the Corps were held in reserve at the plateau before mentioned; a picket line was thrown out, guarding Turner's ford etc. At noon I went out with the escort to find a short cut across towards St Mary's Ch. by which our Corps could march without interfering with the troops of the 2^d Corps who were crossing the bridge all day long,

their trains following. The existing maps were as usual very wrong especially as regards the course of the Chickahominy, and mouth of White Oak swamp. I found a short road without much trouble, and returned via Nance's saw mill and Long Bridge. It was late in the afternoon before the bridge was taken up and under way. Up with Crawford the Cavalry at one time broke and ran through our Infantry. In the afternoon a force of the enemy was observed; they made no attack however, but were content with entrenching themselves in plain sight. Artillery firing at various times during the afternoon. At dusk the three Divs. marched for St. Mary's via the short cut; Crawford retired without molestation at 8 P.M. followed by our Cavalry. It was 12 o'clock before we reached St. Mary's and went into camp, chiefly because Wilson's Cavalry was blocking up the road and would not go on; thought at one time the enemy was attacking; found it resulted from the Cavalry throwing their cartridges into the fire. Rained a little that evening.

Tuesday, June 14th

Moved off at daybreak toward Charles City C.H. Cavalry was out of our way at last. Reached the C.H. by noon. When we arrived, there was no ponton bridge laid yet; no one even knew of a road leading there from the C.H. The 2^d Corps had thrown up entrenchments; we went into camp around C.H. creek; troops rested themselves. In the evening Gen Hancock commenced ferrying some of his troops across to Windmill Pt. The 9th and 6th came up during the day. It was ascertained that the pontoon

bridge for the wagon train over the Chickahominy at Coles Ferry was too short by half its length; a ponton train under Maj. Ford was sent down. Our army lost a day by that. In other words, rather than run the very remote risk of losing a wagon train they run the very positive risk of losing Petersburg, as the success of the whole movement depended on one day. During the night the large ponton bridge was laid across the James river below Donthard's, in 80 feet of water.

Wednesday, June 15th

All quiet in the morning. Griffin and Cutler moved over to the high ground near the river at Mrs. Wilcox's covering the road from Westover. 2^d Corps ferried across to day; no sign of the enemy pursuing us. Baldy Smith's fleet passed to day. Went down to the ponton bridge; good roads had been made down to it; the approaches at the north end required considerable labor, being laid in a cypress swamp. Saw the "Atlanta." Ninth Corps crossed in the evening.

Thursday, June 16th

Crawford's and Ayres' Divs. moved before daybreak marching to Donthard's landing; the other two Divs. commenced crossing at Wilcox's landing by 6 A.M. The ferrying across went slowly at first, and then with more speed, so that by 1 P.M. the Corps was across; the artillery and wagons crossed by the ponton bridge. Started towards Petersburg at 2 P.M. The 9th Corps had preceded us; we did not follow their route, but took the one via Sycamore Ch. and Prince George C.H.; the day was very hot and dusty, no water along the road. Met some of Kautz's

Cavalry near Prince George's. Shortly after leaving the river we had a dispatch from Gen. Grant that Petersburg was captured. We heard heavy firing all the way up, both artillery and musketry. Near Sycamore Ch. received a dispatch from Gen. Grant to hurry up with the 5th Corps; perhaps he thought we were ahead, in place of the 2^d Corps.

By 12 o'clock at night we arrived within a few miles of the lines, camping on a little run on the Prince George's road; Kautz's Cavalry left that night to join Butler. Gen. Warren examined the situation that night; discovered that we were a long way out of Petersburg yet. Saw the works captured by Baldy Smith and the niggers--very formidable, but unfinished and unconnected, only held by artillery. Saw Burnside, who was lying in line ready for assault, which he made before daybreak carrying the enemy's line. Saw Gen. Meade and Gen. Hancock. Our position for the night was satisfactory, and we were not required to pitch in immediately in the morning. Troops very tired. Toward morning a successful charge was made by Gen. Burnside's troops, a number of guns and prisoners were taken, and the enemy's line permanently held up to Norfolk road. The Avery house was taken at one time but was subsequently abandoned as there were not enough troops to hold it; the enemy's sharpshooters held the house all day Friday. About 8 o'clock we went out to the line captured by Burnside; we could see from there that the enemy had thrown up a new line during the night, running nearly North and South, along the eastern edge of the body of timber west of the Avery house, skirting the Norfolk pike, where it

made a bend, and then following the skirt of a large piece of pine woods north of the pike: the line was a low breastwork with two guns behind the Avery house, enfilading the plain in front; there were two more four gun batteries, the one farthest north being in the open field in front of their line; this last mentioned battery was only worked at intervals during the day, our own artillery fire keeping it silent most of the time. The enemy did not show a very heavy force behind their lines although they may have had a heavy body concealed in the thick pine woods. Toward noon Gens. Crawford's and Griffin's Divs. were brought up and formed behind the enemy's line captured the previous night; the 9th Corps was in their front in a deep ravine behind a house where a battery of the 2^d Corps was keeping up a sharp fire; most of the morning was spent in reconnoitring; the enemy's line was commanded by the one we held; they had no abatis, and the ground behind the center of their line was open, subjecting any reinforcement on their front to our artillery fire. Towards noon Gen Cutler's Div. with the Md. Brig. was placed in line east of the Avery house along the road; his right was 1/4 m. in rear of the left of a detached body of the 9th Corps holding a part of the line captured the previous night, the gap being filled by a Brig. of Barlow's Div. 2^d Corps; his left reached to the Norfolk rail road, skirmishers extending across it. There is no doubt but what Cutler could have taken the Avery house at once by assault, but no order was given to that effect; the enemy's force at the Avery seemed to be very small.

After Cutler was put in position I took an escort to reconnoitre around the left. Went down the Norfolk pike beyond Wells' to the railroad platform; took a wood road leading past Sturtevant's mill striking the Jerusalem road at Mrs. Temple's; went up the road as far as the Jones house; a lot of the enemy's cavalry was posted across the road here, and I did not go any further; they belonged to Dearing's Cavalry; I ascertained that the plank road was patrolled twice a day by perhaps 70 cavalry of his command. Returned to Hd. Qrs. at 4 o'clock. Arrangements were being made at this time by the 9th Corps to assault the enemy's line at the north end of the large piece of pine woods; it was almost dark before the attack commenced; by 7 o'clock the 9th Corps succeeded in getting across a part of the enemy's line, with very heavy fighting, two previous attempts having failed; their left was pressed very hard, and kept falling back constantly so that finally their line was at right angles across the enemy's line; that rebel battery before mentioned, in front of their lines, still fired occasional shots, doing great damage. At this time Crawford's Div. was ordered in; it was now dark; the Div. started well enough, but in a short time became bewildered among the two ravines around that house, so that half an hour was lost before the line was straightened. Why Gen. Crawford did not take his troops straight forward from the place he started from to the left of the house where the ground was good remains unexplained to the present day. After the line was rearranged they went forward; his right went up to the enemy's line and there captured about 60 men and a flag from

some Alabama Regt. of Pickett's Div.; his men then became mixed up with the 9th Corps, and presently every body fell back, so that no part of the enemy's line was permanently held that night. It may be that the extreme north end of their line was still held by the 9th Corps, but I don't think it was. All the prisoners taken were very much excited, stating that their force was very small, but admitting that reinforcements were constantly coming up. Firing was kept up all night; toward midnight the enemy were seen to burn a gun carriage in the field in front of their lines which looked like retiring.

Saturday, June 18th

Orders were issued during the night for our Corps to make a combined attack by 4 A.M. I went over to Cutler's Div. with the order. The Md. Brig. had been detached from Ayres' to help him. It was daylight before he started; a fog concealed our movements; the Avery house was found abandoned, and also the line beyond in the edge of the woods. One old fellow was found asleep in the Avery house; he stated that there was a line of battle there when he fell asleep in the middle of the night. I went back to Hd.Qrs. to report this, Cutler in the meantime pushing his skirmishers forward. While I was there reports came in from other parts of our lines to the effect that the enemy had evacuated the line they held the previous night. I returned to Cutler with orders for him to advance, keeping his left on the Norfolk road, because at the Avery house the road appeared to run nearly west. As soon as the line of battle

appeared west of the Avery house, the rebels opened from a rifled battery on the crest this side of Petersburg; an entrenched line was also apparent there with men standing on the parapet; the Md. Brig. was on the right of Cutler, and attempted to cross the open field, but the artillery fire compelled them to edge off to the left under cover of the woods. We placed two rifled batteries in position to answer the enemy. As Cutler advanced it was discovered that the railroad ran through a deep cut turning sharply to the right, and that our whole line would have to cross it. A bridge across the cut was still in flames. On the right of Cutler's line the enemy's skirmishers were encountered on the opposite bank of the cut. A delay of some time was occasioned here before Cutler's line was reformed on the other side of the cut and the enemy's skirmishers had been pressed back. Griffin's and Crawford's skirmishers had now advanced over the open fields on each side of the Norfolk pike up the railroad cut, the bridge over which was gone; the cut here was very deep, and after the men were got into it, it was hard to get them out again. Ayres' Div. in the meantime moved around behind Cutler to his left, along the old line of fortifications, and there formed, about half his troops being to the left of the old line; as soon as his troops showed themselves, the enemy's guns opened upon them, doing considerable execution. The enemy's lines seemed to form a salient opposite Ayres where their new line joined on to the old one; from this point a heavy sharpshooting fire was kept up on Cutler's right. At 10 o'clock already orders had been received from Gen. Meade to prepare everything

for a simultaneous assault along the whole line, and every energy was bent toward accomplishing that; the ground offered great obstacles which it was difficult to reconnoitre properly owing to the activity of the enemy's sharpshooters; the curve and deep cut of the railroad unavoidably cut our line; the various ravines which formed the head of Poo creek made the ground very difficult to pass over; in front of Ayres the enemy had such a sweep that his line had to be formed under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry; the ground was such that one Div. commander could not see how the other one was getting on. The simultaneous attack had been ordered by Gen. Meade for 12 M. to be made at all hazards, no matter whether we understood the ground or not, or were prepared any how. The attack was not made at the time as there was not even a line formed then. About 1 o'clock we were ready for an assault, and Gen. Warren suggested to Gen. Meade that perhaps 3 o'clock would suit to make a simultaneous attack. A general attack was ordered at that time. I carried the order to Cutler and in 10 minutes his men were ready, and the advance was made; the assault was made at about the same time along the whole of the 5th Corps front.

The result was a repulse with a loss of say 1600 men killed and wounded; the nearest approach to carrying the enemy's line was in Griffin's front; some of the men were shot there within 20 feet of the enemy's line; Cutler carried a slight crest between his position and the enemy's, which he held; about 500 of his men went beyond this into a large ravine, the main branch of the Poo running directly in front of the enemy's line; these

men were at first given up for lost, but the majority returned after nightfall. The least advance was made in Ayres' front where the ground was perfectly level and fairly swept by the rebel fire. The reason of Griffin and Crawford getting so much closer lay in the fact of the r.r. cut being much closer to the lines there, and the ground they had to advance over was steeper, so that the rebs fired over. It was at first determined after straightening out the lines to make another assault that afternoon, but that idea was abandoned finally. Two batteries were placed in position by Colonel Wainwright on the advanced line held by Cutler during the heaviest fire. The enfilading fire from the salient was particularly severe on Cutler, the more so as Ayres could not advance with him. During the night the most of our dead and wounded were brought in and the advanced line entrenched so that we could hold it against an attack the next day. The line in front of Griffin and Crawford was not more than 150 yards from the enemy's line.

The assaults along the remaining front of the Army were still less successful than ours.

Our batteries fired extensively during the day; 4000 rounds were expended.

Hd.Qrs. at Avery house that night.

Sunday, June 19th

Troops remained in line as on the previous day; the musketry firing was kept up more or less, varied by an occasional cannon shot; it became dangerous to expose yourself anywhere along the

eastern bank of the railroad cut. There was considerable artillery firing on the 9th Corps front, which they kept up as long as they held that line. Our losses for the day, perhaps 300.

Monday, June 20th

The pickets of Gen. Ayres were advanced a little on the left so that they could see the Jerusalem plank road. Steps were taken to hold the line with as small a force as possible so as to have a force free to operate further to the left. During this night Gen. Griffin was withdrawn from his position in the line, Gens. Cutler and Crawford each stretching a little. The standard set up was that 2500 men per mile would be sufficient to hold the lines. Desultory firing kept up all day, with occasional stampedes during the night. Arrangements were being made for the extension of our lines toward the left across the plank road.

Tuesday, June 21st

Gen. Griffin moved around to the Cheeves house, massing his Div. near there; at the same time Gen. Birney, then commanding the 2^d Corps, moved across the plank road near the Williams house, intending to advance up the plank road on the western side of it; in course of the day they had a line formed, Gibbon on the right, his right resting on the plank road at a point 200 yds. in advance of the present fort Davis. In the afternoon Genl. Meade rode past Griffin's Hd.Qrs. at the Cheeves house, and made a fuss because his Div. was massed there yet; they accordingly moved up at once without much opposition to the edge of the timber overlooking the field south of the rebel line.

Their left rested on the plank road at the site of Fort Hell, and right connected with Ayres; there was a gap between Gibbon's right and Griffin's left, across the plank road, which however was controlled by our artillery. All quiet that night.

Wednesday, June 22^d

Griffin's men began to entrench their line this morning; he still kept one brigade in reserve at Cheeves house, Bartlett and Tilden being enough to hold the line; we had no artillery on his front line yet. In the afternoon the 2^d Corps commenced to advance its lines so as to get to the edge of the Woods west of the plank road overlooking the open country south of the enemy's lines; while doing this they were struck in the left flank by Mahone's Div. which came down a road in the open space formed by the extension of Strong's field north; the attack was so sudden and vigorous that before Gibbon had time to change his front the enemy had doubled up almost two brigades taking 2300 prisoners, and 4 guns from M^cKnight's battery; the enemy then retired as quickly as they came, back to their works; they were seen from our advance on the site of Fort Hell; one or two batteries posted at that point would have been sufficient to prevent this whole affair. Gen Griffin sent his reserve Brig. to the assistance of Gibbon, but they were not called into action.

Thursday, June 23^d

The enemy fired most of the day from two pieces in their salient at the Gregory house; their shots mostly took effect upon the right of Cutler. We had as many as 28 pieces in position

to play upon them, without silencing them however; they seemed to be located in a depression of ground formed by the head of the ravine of the Poo so that our direct fire from Ayres' and Cutler's front could do them no harm.

In course of the day the 6th Corps moved around to the left of the 2^d Corps advancing west from the Williams house; While moving they were attacked by the enemy under Mahone and lost about 600 men; they established their line finally about 1/2 mile west of the Williams house, and entrenched, connecting with the 2^d Corps.

At this time one Brig. of Griffin and one of Ayres were still away either with the 2^d or the 6th Corps.

Friday, June 24th

Before daylight Gen. Crawford was relieved from his place in the line by Willcox's Div. 9th Corps and moved around by the Cheeves house, relieving Gibbon's Div. in the afternoon, his right resting on the plank road. Gen. Crawford reports Gen. Gibbon's men very much demoralized.

Saturday, June 25th to Saturday, July 2^d

Nothing of special interest took place during this period; firing along the lines was continuous with musketry and artillery, especially at night, along the 9th Corps front; our losses averaged from 30 to 70 per day, gradually diminishing.

A system of morning and evening reports was introduced, which usually contained nothing. Our lines were strengthened all along, made higher, and abattis was placed along our entire front.

The picket firing on Griffin's and Ayres' fronts ceased

toward the end of this period.

On the 30th Wilson's Cavalry was gobbled at Reams' station; one Div. 6th Corps went to their assistance, but accomplished nothing.

The weather was intensely hot, and roads dusty, the only water obtainable was well-water, which, however, was of prime quality.

Sunday, July 3^d

By the time the project of Gen. Burnside to dig a mine under the advance position which Gen. Griffin had taken possession of in the charge of the 18th began to attract some attention; it had been somewhat ridiculed heretofore, but now since the 2^d and 6th Corps had failed in their advance toward the left, this seemed to be the only resource left in the way of making offensive movements against the enemy. To take full advantage of the successful explosion of the mine it would be necessary to mass all the available force of the Army there, consisting of the 2^d and 6th Corps, then on our left, and holding a position of no importance.

It was determined that we should hold the flank of the Army by two or three detached redoubts of large dimensions, able to take care of themselves if the enemy should break in between them.

Before these were located the sense of the community was once more taken upon the advisability of a general assault against the lines, but the report of every general was unfavorable.

Monday, July 4th

Gen. Ayres' pickets were advanced a short distance along the old line of the enemy's works to take possession of an abandoned earthwork half way between the lines. Gen. Hunt and Maj. Duane were out on our front examining it for the purpose of selecting sites for batteries to aid in the assault of Burnside; they were to comprise counterbatteries and batteries to sweep the ground behind the enemy's lines, and prevent their reinforcing their lines.

The present site of Fort Hell was considered a favorable place for a redoubt, as it would control the whole open country near the enemy's lines toward the Welden R.R. Gen. Meade objected to having it done but the lines for it were marked out by a rifle pit after dark.

Tuesday, July 5th

The two other redoubts were laid out to day, Forts Davis and Prescott respectively; the former intended for 1500 men and 8 guns, and the latter for 500 men and guns; the completion of these redoubts would enable us to hold our left with a small force, and in case the enemy would turn them further south they would have to go so far around that we would get timely notice of it.

From this time until....

Monday, July 11th (inclusive)

Everybody was busy on these redoubts; each Div. furnished large details, both day and night; 2000 men of the 2^d Corps also assisted.

On this day they were about ready to be occupied by our troops. On the 9th, the 6th Corps left for City Point, en route for Washington. The 2^d Corps took up part of their lines, and in consequence Crawford extended his left so as to take up part of the right of the 2^d Corps. There was a feeling of insecurity this day and all the troops were under orders to move at a moment-notice.

Tuesday, July 12th

The 2^d Corps moved away this day, going in reserve near the deserted house; they left one Brig. on picket (Col. Smith's). In consequence of this withdrawal the redoubts were fully occupied to day, although the large one was still in an unfinished state. Col. Davis, 39th Mass. was killed to day in the large redoubt by a shell bursting under the chair he was sitting on; the redoubt was named after him.

A connecting line between the two redoubts was also finished about this time; it was put up under the direction of Major Duane.

Wednesday, July 13th

The day was principally devoted to slashing timber on each side of the plank road by Charles' and Hays' Brigades. In consequence of the removal of the 2^d Corps, the cavalry under Gen. Gregg and Ferrero's colored troops reported to Gen. Warren: they covered the left flank and rear from the Jerusalem plank road to the Norfolk road.

All quiet on the lines.

Thursday, July 14th

Working on redoubts all day. In the afternoon rode around

the picket line of Smyth's Brig. until we struck Crawford's. Arrangements were made while going along to have the new picket line of the colored troops occupied by them that afternoon, and also for Crawford to relieve Smyth's picket line of the 2^d Corps. All this was done in the afternoon and evening, Smyth rejoining the 2^d Corps that night.

Friday, July 15th

Nothing special occurred. Fort Hell nearly ready for guns if it were desirable to put any in. The usual work was going on in the lines. An explosion took place in one of the rebel batteries, produced by a shell from a 9th Corps battery.

Saturday, July 16th

The work on the various batteries is gradually drawing to a close, with one or two exceptions near the mine. The little abandoned earthwork to which Ayres' pickets were advanced in weeks previous has been converted into a H-gun-battery for field pieces.

Sunday, July 17th

A number of deserters came in after dark stating that an attack would be made on our lines before day break; our lines were manned all night waiting for them but nothing came of it.

Monday-Tuesday, July 18th-19th

Nothing of importance occurred.

The rear line where Ferrero is working is nearly finished. Work on batteries continued every night.

Wednesday-Tuesday, July 20th-26th

Burnside quietly boring away at his mine: our men busily

working at batteries including the two heavy mortar batteries; the nightly details furnished by our Corps average from 1000 to 1500 men regularly.

The 2^d Corps crossed the James over to Deep Bottom. Weather very hot.

Wednesday, July 7th

A force of the enemy's infantry appeared at the Gurley house in front of our cavalry pickets, making no offensive demonstration however; 2^d Brig. of Gen. White's Div. 9th Corps were sent around to our left to help in case of attack.

There was an unusual commotion in the rebel lines the night previous. It is surmised that the force at the Gurley house was there looking for Hancock, whose whereabouts was unknown to them.

Preparations were made to relieve Gen. Ayres Div. from the line, by letting the reserve Brig. of Gen. Griffin hold the most of his line. The batteries took up so much room now as to materially shorten the infantry line.

Many deserters come in nowadays.

Thursday & Friday, July 28th-29th

As the mine was to be exploded on the morning of the 30th, these two days were spent in busy preparations, many of which were only finished on the morning of the 30th. The night of the 29th was busily employed getting the 10" and 8" mortars in position, putting shell and powder into the magazines. Before daylight on the 30th the whole of Div. of Gen. Ayres was massed in the railroad cut ready to go in after Burnside 's men had all gone in.

Saturday, July 30th

I went down to the neighborhood of the mine in the evening before the explosion to look at the arrangements. One single narrow, and very crooked covered way led to the ground near the mouth of the mine, where the charging column formed previous to the assault; the space here was very limited and entirely inadequate for assembling a large body of men for making a rush. The greater part of this covered way was exposed to the enemy's fire, especially where it descended and emerged from the railroad cut; owing to the place d'armes being so small, the progress of the column coming down the covered way would necessarily be very slow, leaving them exposed to the enemy's fire so much longer.

In addition to Gen. Ayres' Div. the 9th Corps were supported by the 18th Corps under Gen. Ord; the 2^d Corps also came back in course of the morning from deep bottom; almost the entire Army was therefore at hand. Owing to a defect in the fuze the mine did not explode at 4 o'clock, but an hour later. The charge, I think, was 8000 pounds; depth of ground 25'. As no one present had ever seen that much powder exploded at once, the most extravagant expectations were indulged in as to the effect. When it did take place every one was disappointed. There was a solid column of smoke, flame, and dirt, say 200' wide and 200' high, visible for perhaps 15 seconds, then everything subsided, and a heavy cloud of black smoke floated off. The whole mass of earth had settled down again into the hole, of course thoroughly shaken up and with everything on top turned upside down, or partially

buried; there was a small crater in the centre of the mine. The charge of powder had not been sufficient to throw the earth far, and no damage at all was done to the enemy's lines immediately adjacent to the mine. The location of the mine was also short of the proper point, as the enemy's covered way remained intact behind the edge of the crater.

Immediately after the explosion all our guns opened, firing at first at almost nothing at all. We had about 52 field guns in position, 16 heavy mortars, 11 cohorns, and 20 rifled 32's. I went over to Gen. Burnside's Hd.Qrs. to ascertain how he was getting along and how soon he would need our co-operation. His men had been lying for several hours waiting for the explosion, and were pretty well scared when it did take place; moreover for weeks previous their minds had been wrought up about it. The result was that for half an hour the men refused to go forward, and the most favorable opportunity was lost for taking advantage of the surprise.

The plan had been that our troops should march right through the opening caused by the explosion, and mass on the crest beyond, overlooking the town, instead of rolling up the enemy's line right and left by the flank.

Ledlie's Div. stopped in the crater, instead of going any further, glad to find shelter from the musketry fire the enemy was pouring in from each flank; the men were so disorganized when they got up there after running the gauntlet for 150 yds. that nothing could be done with them. After this one Div. was out of the way, the colored troops rushed up, and piled in on

top of the white Div. lying in the crater; this only added to the confusion; some efforts were made to go farther, which only ended in the men plunging headlong into the covered way beyond; one gun of the enemy's played into this mass at short range; our guns could not silence this piece owing to the obstructions caused by a grove of trees in the 9th Corps front which had not been cut down the night previous. The batteries on our own 5th Corps front had completely silenced the enemy's artillery, and the musketry which at first sprang up soon subsided. Our mortar practice, which at first was very poor, owing to defective powder, grew better, and caused several explosions in the salient at which it was principally directed. Some people were rather disappointed that the enemy did not fire more, so as to bring into play for at least a few hours that immense covered way which our army had been constructing for at least a month or longer. By this time, 6 A.M., our men had put up some flags on the crater, which became visible as the smoke ceased and our unnecessary cannonading slackened. It appeared then to us lookers on that we had at any rate effected a permanent lodgment there, if nothing more. Word was received about this time from Gen. Crawford that the enemy were striking their tents behind their lines towards the Leadworks, and moving off toward the mine; when this was communicated to Gen. Meade, he at once sent orders that Crawford should assault the enemy's lines in his front, and word was sent him by Gen. Warren to make a demonstration at least with Baxter's Brig. and part of Lyle's. Gen. Crawford did not think even this was practicable and so nothing was done on the left.

At 8 A.M. the niggers still held the crater, that one gun firing into them all the time. Gen. Ord attempted one or two assaults on the enemy's lines to the right of the mine, but they failed altogether. Gen. Ayres was now directed to examine the ground and approaches on the left of the mine for the purpose of making an attack on the enemy's lines there, and if possible capture that piece of the enemy. After this examination was made, and while Gen. Meade's approval was still awaited, a sudden stampede occurred among the colored troops at the crater; a black swarm of men was seen rushing for our lines, and presently everyone saw that it was all over for that day. A column of the enemy's reinforcements which had been moving in a covered way were now seen and shelled by our batteries causing half of them to turn back, but the rest went to the mine, and then a slaughter commenced which lasted pretty much all day. Most of the white troops were captured and the niggers were pretty much all killed before night.

Our own loss was very trifling, 20 or 30. Gen. Ayres' Div. went back at once to their camps; orders were issued to have all the heavy guns and mortars removed that night.

Spectators amused themselves with looking at the crater and seeing the rebs hunt niggers and shoot them.

Every little while some fellow would run the gauntlet and get back to our lines, but many were shot on the way back.

Gen. Grant himself was present at one time in the morning, and saw what was going on. One great drawback to the success of the affair was our artillery fire which opened as soon as

the mine exploded, covering the whole field with a pall of smoke, and frightening our men more than the rebel fire did, especially as a great many of our shells burst short; most frequently from the battery near the Avery house.

Sunday, July 31st

The Div. of Gen. Cutler was moved from its place in the line and took up position on the rear line where the colored troops had been picketing the whole line from the Jerusalem road to the plank road. The 2^d Corps were at that time massed around the Norfolk road, Gibbon being close to Cutler. At the same time we relieved a small force of the 2^d Corps who had been garrisoning one or two of the rear redoubts for a few days. Two batteries of Maj. Hazard's remained yet for a day or two until ours could be taken away from the main line.

Monday, August 1st

Nothing particular occurred. Some 300 men were at work changing the line a little to the west of Fort Hell. All quiet. Flag of truce to bury the dead at the mine. The wounded had all died by this time from thirst and the intense heat. Musketry firing was still kept up at the mine, night and day.

Tuesday, August 2^d

While paying a visit to Fort Hell, the officer commanding a regular battery there reported that suspicious sounds could be heard in one of the magazines, like the striking of a pick axe under ground, indicating that the enemy might be mining the place. Both Gen. Warren and myself heard such sounds, and although not positively convinced that they arose from such a cause it

was deemed best to take measures at once for counteracting any operation of the kind on the part of the rebels. Three pits were sunk in the ditch down to the water line, and two galleries were driven toward the enemy for a distance of 20 feet. These were intended chiefly as listening places, beside answering as the commencement of a countermine.

As nothing has ever happened there, it must be set down as an illusion as far as the rebs are concerned, and affords an example of the distance that sounds can be conveyed under ground, the sound probably being produced somewhere inside of our own lines.

Work was still kept up at night on some of our batteries.

Wednesday, August 3^d

Nothing special occurred. Bartlett's pickets were advanced a little during the night, so as to get a view down the ravine in front of the enemy's salient, but nothing special was discovered.

Details at work during the night on forts front of the 10 guns mortar battery and to the left of Fort Hell.

Thursday-Monday, August 4th-8th (incl.)

Every thing quiet; busy working on our forts; could get along without Bragg. Our connection with the 9th Corps was kept up during the day by a line of cavalry videttes. I rode out before evening to Crawford's right and took a look at the field in his front. There was a tall growth of corn which prevented the pickets from seeing anything; there were no videttes on trees for lookouts. After dark Ayres and Crawford began to entrench and chop down timber; their line did not run

at right angles with the R.R. on the east side of the R.R. but N from the point where the R.R. enters the Woods. W. of the R.R. the line was at L. The troops were mostly in two lines behind it, and could easily have held a line of double the length. Nothing but a thin skirmish line covered this line on the right and rear. In the evening word came that the 9th Corps would come over in the morning. Griffin maintained the same position on the R.R. south of Yellow house all day. The enemy's force as far as developed during the day was say 6000, or one Div.

Friday, August 19th

There had been considerable rain in the night making the ground very sloppy and slippery; in the morning it was misty and foggy with frequent showers of rain preventing any extensive view. Matters were tolerably quiet at first.

Gen. Bragg's Brig. was ordered to deploy as a picket line to connect Crawford's right with the 9th Corps. The left of the 9th Corps picket line was then near the Williams house, half way between it and Aikens' house, and Bragg had already established a sort of connection between that point and his camp of the night previous, but the picket line he was to take up now was intended to follow the edge of that open field on Crawford's right and extend from there due east through the woods where it was expected he would come out some place in Strong's clearing, perhaps half way between the site of the Strong house and Fort Davis.

Capt. Cope was sent out at daybreak to assist Gen. Bragg in doing this.

After breakfast I went out to see how the picket line was

getting along. Met Capt. Paine who was guiding the 9th Corps and asked me where they should be massed; I told him to put them in the field next to the large body of timber, where they would be close to Bragg and within supporting distance; On my return I found they had been placed nearly $3/4$ m. to the rear of that point. Nothing particular was going on, but little picket firing; some of the reserves had taken a house in the middle of the field, half a mile east of the white Davis house. It was raining more or less all the time. Saw neither Gen. Crawford, Bragg nor Capt. Cope. Bragg's picket line had not been changed yet. I returned to Hd.Qrs. reporting that fact, and was sent back immediately with positive orders to have it advanced to a certain point of woods in the edge of that large cornfield on Crawford's right where there was no standing corn and a good view could be obtained. Before leaving Hd.Qrs. reports came in from Ayres that the enemy was moving towards and massing on his left. It was now about 12 o'clock; going out I met Gen. Crawford; took him out to that point and showed him what was to be done; he might have done it himself, but preferred to have Gen. Bragg do it as he had charge of it. We both started off to find him, soon becoming separated. I rode about in that large body of woods between Fort Howard and Strong's farm for an hour and a half; the picket line on the right had been moved up, I found finally, and and posted for about $3/4$ of the distance commencing from the right in place of the left where they ought to have started from.

About 1 $1/2$ I found a little man in a blue overcoat wandering

in the woods all alone about 500 yds. N.E. of Fort Howard; he asked me who I was, and I told him; he then stated that he was completely lost, and wanted me to show him where he was, which I did, and he went off. Before he was out of sight an orderly came along; I asked him who that little man was, and much to my surprise he told me it was Gen. Bragg, whom I did not know personally.

I gave him his instructions at once, and he was glad to have my assistance. I found he had been working at random all the morning without a compass, had lost his horse and orderly, and was completely played out. He walked back to that field near Fort Howard where his Hd.Qrs. were; the 6th Wisconsin was still there; this regt. was to be sent to that point at once, preparatory to going himself. While he was doing this I rode out a little wood road toward the picket line, striking it at the 7th Wisc. The line was tolerably strong, with a vidette a little way out of the road, following the line I came back on another little road to the field where Gen. Bragg was; the 6th Wis. had already gone. The picket line in itself was good enough there, and well connected, but at no point could they see more than 20 feet around them, and they were still a quarter of a mile to the rear of that particular point where it was designed to push it.

It had been raining heavily most of this time.

Everything was perfectly still at this time. Gen. Bragg's dinner was ready and we sat down to eat something before posting the men. We were just finishing when a couple of shots were heard in the direction of the 7th Wisc. where I had just been;

we did not think anything of them at the time; 3 or 4 minutes afterward more shots were fired and presently a small volley, which told us what was the matter. The 6th Wis. was immediately sent for and had quite a little fight in that field, holding the enemy for some little time, long enough to have given Lyle and Coulter a chance to make proper preparations. I rode back immediately to Hd.Qrs. with the news: before getting out of the Woods I met Gen. Crawford who understood the matter at once. Before reaching the Yellow house the musketry became quite heavy; it also opened in front of Ayres, showing that it was a concerted attack; several batteries opened from the White house. The first thing to be done now was to get the 9th Corps in line and advance them against the enemy before they got through that piece of woods into the field.

Owing to their being so far back from the place where they were needed, some 20 minutes were consumed before Willcox's Div. was in line and ready to advance; their left rested on Tilton's right, for a start merely, near a little barn now gone. I did not find any Brig. Genls. about, and put the Div. in line myself, with the aid of Lt. Fisher of Willcox's staff. When the line was ready to advance, the flank of a rebel line of battle advancing west emerged from the woods, and firing commenced at once, our line advancing slowly toward the woods. White was on Willcox's right and Potter over by the Aiken house. A very large number of our men came straggling out of the Woods, behind Lyle's and Coulter's lines; some of our batteries which opened at this time on the rebs must have struck in the rear of Crawford's

line; at any rate it demoralized them considerably. All the rebs were quickly driven off that field and some distance into the woods. Before reaching the woods the 9th Corps line halted, and would not enter the woods; had they done so at the time, many of our men might have escaped capture; as it was the majority of our men were taken while the enemy was on his way back; had Lyle's and Coulter's men fought as they ought to have done, we might have captured a large number of the enemy without losing any of ours. In fact, word was sent in several times that Lyle's men had captured a brigade, but could not bring them off. Had the 9th Corps been in its proper place in the morning, the whole catastrophe might have possibly been avoided. The force of the enemy, breaking in our right, was estimated at three brigades. Gen. White had quite a sharp fight in his front. Off to the left, where Ayres was fighting, Tilton's Brig. went in, also Hoffman's Brig. Gen. Warren after a while succeeded in getting Willcox's line into the woods with the happiest effect, prisoners being taken in considerable quantities.

By nightfall the enemy had all left except in White's front, where they could have been driven off had an effort been made; I rode around with our escort through Potter's line by the Aiken house to find the left of the rebel line; found them huddled up in the field where Bragg had been in the morning, they seemed pretty much demoralized; reported it to Potter on my way back; he did not seem inclined to believe it, and at any rate took no steps to push the rebs. Our losses footed up very heavy for the day, at least 2500 prisoners; the whole of the reserves,

half of Bragg, and numbers from Lyle, Coulter, and Hays.

Gen. Hays was captured when Gen. Ayres' line was falling back to avoid being taken in the rear; the regulars lost quite heavy as usual.

The 9th Corps fought quite well as far as it went. The night closed finding us still in secure possession of the Weldon R.R. and one Div. almost unengaged yet. We were still good for another fight.

The roads were horribly muddy, impeding the movements of supply trains and artillery. It was fully determined now that we should hold on to the Weldon R.R. at all hazards.

Saturday, August, 20th

Weather clearing off somewhat. Matters tolerably quiet at daybreak; but little pickets firing; the enemy had fallen back in front of the 9th Corps line; they were still present in force opposite Ayres especially sharpshooters. Went out to the lines. Opposite Ayres the pickets were almost as far out as they ever were; the line there held the entrenched line we held yesterday morning. White moved in to connect with Col. Lyle's right, but there was still a gap between White's right and Potter. Quite a number of rebel stragglers were picked up, also a few prisoners; they all coincided in the opinion that the rebs would make another effort to drove us off the road.

About an hour was spent in straightening out the lines.

At this time Gen. Warren determined to withdraw our lines from the woods, and take up a new one in the middle of the large field, with a salient around the Blick house; this arrangement

would enable our artillery to have full play, beside shortening our line to some extent, and giving full sweep to the musketry also.

The 9th Corps withdrew first--the two Divs. of White and Willcox. Gen. Potter moved up from his position at the Aiken house to the field near Fort Howard and commenced a regular line, with slashing in front. After our batteries were placed in position, the infantry gradually came out of the woods leaving a strong skirmish line in the old place.

Orders were sent in the morning for White and Potter to send out scouting parties of 20 or 30 men out the little roads to see how far back the enemy's pickets were, but none were sent that I know of. I started out myself, but met a party of Johnnies before I went out a hundred yards.

The whole Corps was busy all day entrenching. Ayres advanced his skirmishers in the afternoon a short distance, capturing some prisoners. Towards dark Tilden's Brig. 1st Div. and Hoffman's Brig. were withdrawn from the left of the R.R., retiring in line of battle in fine style. The enemy made no particular demonstration that evening.

Reports came in all day from the various signal stations that the enemy was moving troops toward us.

Hoffman's and Bragg's Brig. were engaged all night throwing up a line south of the Blick house running parallel with the R.R. and a quarter of a mile west of it.

Nearly two regts. of Bragg who had been cut off in the fight

of the day before and taken refuge with Mott's Div. returned to us this day.

Griffin's line was entrenched along the R.R. for half a mile or more.

Enough work was done during the night to enable us to withstand any attack in the morning. All the old entrenchments were levelled in the edge of the woods.

One Brig. of Gregg's cavalry joined us to day.

Sunday, August 21st

The entrenchments of Bragg and Hoffman were finished just before daylight; everything bid fair for a quiet day in the morning; about 8 o'clock I rode along Potter's line to see how they were getting along, and then kept on to look at the connection between them and the 2^d Corps; as soon as I came there heard heavy firing going on at our lines; rode back as fast as I could behind our lines, coming out on the open field behind the left of the 9th Corps line; there was not much musketry firing, but the air seemed to be alive with cannonballs coming from the direction of the Flower house; it required the utmost agility to dodge them, and as I went up toward Blick's the fire was almost as heavy from the White house up the R.R. Our skirmishers were apparently all driven in, although they were still in place along Potter's front; while riding behind Ayres' right a thin line of rebs made their appearance in the edge of woods opposite; our batteries opened on them after a little driving them back very soon; there was so much powder smoke that I doubt whether many of our infantry saw them in time.

Around the Blick house it was very hot; the infantry were not firing much, keeping close under, but the batteries did their best, and it was by them that the severest proportional loss was experienced. The Blick was at one time subjected to a fire equal to if not surpassing any at Gettysburg. We afterwards learned that the enemy had 16 guns at the Flower house and 12 at the White house (Davis') all firing at one point. Many of the shots from the Davis house ricocheted, going past the Yellow house into Griffin's line. Few of their shells burst, being used as solid shot. Our skirmishers had all been driven in from the Vaughan road and Flower house at the beginning, the enemy's infantry passing down the Vaughan road toward our left.

The heavy cannonade ceased after half an hour, and was followed by an advance of their infantry line from a skirt of woods between us and the Flower house. They had evidently been massing and forming their infantry lines under cover of this shelling so as to strike our left flank as they supposed. Their main attack came upon Hoffman's and Braggs Brig^s. and Paddy Hart's Battery; it was repulsed with ease; they did not even come near enough to be very severely punished, running back under cover of the woods after standing the fire for a few moments.

One Brig. of S. Carolinians under Gen Haywood took advantage of the cover afforded by a little stream, and got around the left flank of Cutler's line, without the latter's knowledge at first; but the rebs had got out of the frying pan into the fire, because here they were exposed to the full fire of Griffin's line, which they did not expect to find. They stood for a moment

irresolute and wavering; our men stopped firing and hollered to them to come in; many did come in; at this time Capt. Daly of Cutler's staff went down to them with a dozen men to receive the surrender. Daly seized a flag in the hands of Haywood; the latter did not exactly see it in that light, but shot Daly in the side with a pistol, giving the word at the same time to his men to put, which they did; our men poured a parting volley into them, likewise the Battery, killing 20 or 30. The majority of them got away. Some of the rebels got clear around Griffin's left on the R.R.; they were quickly dislodged by a few regiments sent down from Tilden's Brig. This ended substantially the fighting for the day. Their sharpshooters kept busy all the afternoon, and became quite annoying. At night the enemy retired.

This day's work was a clear victory for us, achieved with trivial loss.

Haywood accuses Roger Pryor of having brought him into that scrape; the latter, a scout, having reported that the left flank of the Yankees was opposite the Yellow house where Haywood went in and was trapped.

Casualties in 5th Corps

	kill.	kil.	wo.	wound.	mis.	mis.	aggregate	total	trimon.to.	dis.
Date	off.	men	off.	men	off.	men	off. men			
May 5	28	346	86	2182	32	1301	146	3829	3975	
May 8	13	167	45	1062	3	158	60	1387	1448	
" 10	10	124	25	609	-	25	35	758	793	
" 12	2	38	10	270	1	36	13	344	357	
" 23	1	40	10	228	1	58	12	326	338	
" 30	1	17	2	62	1	4	4	83	87	10,808
June 1	12	88	19	546	8	350	39	984	1023	+3,800
" 18	11	239	49	1366	2	68	62	1673	1735	+498
July 30	--	4	2	21	-	--	2	25	27	{ 1038 438 Jdy } -84
Aug. 18	7	52	25	164	8	106	40	322	362	+117
" 19	7	28	9	107	72	1652	88	1787	1875	{ 1-20 3491 } +1254
" 21	2	44	9	171	2	168	13	383	396	20-20 271 -125
Sept. 30	4	50	18	254	1	103	23	407	430	Sept. 445 +18
Oct. 27	2	30	2	176	3	9	7	215	222	Oct. 557 +335
various	8	324	51	1717	2	277	61	2318	2379	— -2379
total	108	1591	362	8935	136	4315	606	14,841	15,447	18,153 +2706

W.B. The above list was made up from a list of the names of those killed, wounded or missing, as far as known, principally for hospital purposes. Neither does it embrace the casualties among regiments whose time expired during the campaign; it falls short 2706 of the number given in the trimonthlys.

ANNOTATIONS

- p. 1: 5th Corps: commanded by General G.K. Warren
- p. 1: General Griffin: brigadier general commanding 1st Div.
- P. 1: General Crawford: brigadier general commanding 3rd Div. of Penn. Reserves.
- p. 1: General Robinson: brigadier general commanding 2nd Div.
- p. 1: General Wadsworth: brigadier general commanding 4th Div.
- p. 1: Wilderness run: tributary of Rapidan River, flowing through the area known as the Wilderness.
- p. 1: Orange Pike: road running roughly east to west through the Wilderness.
- p. 2: Orange Plank Road: road running roughly east to west about two miles south of the Orange Pike.
- p. 2: 2d. Corps: commanded by Maj. General Winfield S. Hancock.
- p. 2: 6th Corps: commanded by the affable Maj. General John Sedgwick ("Uncle John").
- p. 2: Wilson's cavalry: Brigadier General Manes H. Wilson in charge of Cavalry Div.
- p. 3: Chancellorsville: at crossroads of Orange Pike and Orange Plank Road.
- p. 3: Gen. Ewell: Lt. General Richard Stoddert of the 2nd Corps, C.S.A.
- p. 4: Col. McCandless: William, leader of a brigade at Wilderness.

- p. 4: Gen. Cutler: brigadier general and leader of the Iron Brigade.
- p. 4: Gen. Baxter: brigadier general and leader of a brigade at the Wilderness.
- p. 5: Capt. Winslow's battery: George B. Winslow, commanding Battery B, 1st New York Light Artillery.
- p. 5: Ayres' Brig.: brigadier general commanding a brigade at the Wilderness.
- p. 6: Hill's Corps: Lt. General Ambrose P. Hill, commander of 3rd Corps, C.S.A.
- p. 7: Col. Comstock: Lt. Colonel Cyrus B. Comstock, A.D.C. to Grant.
- p. 7: Gen. Bartlett: brigadier general commanding 3rd. Brigade.
- p. 7: Capt. Cope: A.D.C. to Warren.
- p. 7: Rice's Brig: brigadier general commanding 2nd Brig., 4th Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 8: Lyle's Brig.: Col. Peter Lyles, commanding 90th Pa., a reserve brigade.
- p. 8: Md. Brig.: commanded by Col. Andrew W. Denison.
- p. 8: Col. Coulter: commander of the 11th Pa.
- p. 9: Gen. Burnside: commander of the 9th corps.
- p. 9: Gen. Parke: Chief of Staff of the 9th Corps.
- p. 10: Col. Kitching: John Howard Kitching, commander of the Heavy Artillery Brigade.
- p. 10: Penn. Reserves: part of Crawford's 3d Division.
- p. 10: "Uncle John": Gen. Sedgwick., well-liked and killed by a sniper bullet at Spotsylvania.

- p. 10: Getty.: Brigadier General George Washington Getty, commander of the 2nd Div., 6th Corps.
- p. 11: Orange C.H. (Court House): place where Orange Plank Road and Orange Turnpike originate, twenty miles west of Wilderness Tavern.
- p. 12: Gen. Merritt: commander of Res. Brig., 1st Div., Cav. Corps at Todd's Tavern.
- p. 12: Stuart's Cavalry: C.S.A. general and cavalry leader.
- p. 14: Longstreet: Lt. General James Longstreet, C.S.A., commander of 1st Corps.
- p. 14: Barksdale Miss. Brig.: in McLaws' division of Longstreet's corps, composed of 13th, 17th, 18th, and 21st Miss. Regiments.
- p. 15: Sweitzer: Col. Jacob B. Sweitzer, commander of 2d Brig., 1st Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 15: Col Wainwright: Charles S. Wainwright, commander of artillery brigade.
- p. 16: Jersey Brig. of Gen. Thomas Hewson Neale's Div.: probably Thomas Hewson Neill, commander of 3rd Brig., 2nd Div., 6th Corps.
- p. 18: Gibbon: Brigadier General John Gibbon, commander of 2d Div. of 2nd Corps.
- p. 18: the salient: part of the battle of Spotsylvania.
- p. 19: Gen. Barlow: commander of 1st Div., 2nd Corps.
- p. 20: Birney: probably Major General William Birney, commander of 3rd Div., 2nd Corps.
- p. 21: Lt. Mackenzie: part of an engineering company at the Wilderness.

- p. 21: Upton's Brig.: Colonel Upton, commanding 2nd Brig.,
1st Div., 6th Corps.
- p. 24: Gen. Ricketts: James Brewerton Ricketts, commanding
3rd Div., 6th Corps.
- p. 25: Col. Bates: Colonel in the 30th U.S. Infantry.
- p. 26: Col. Marshall: commanded a Provisional Brigade,
9th Corps.
- p. 26: Lt. Col. Otis: Elwell Stephen Otis, commanded 1st
Brig., 2nd Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 26: Hampton's Cavalry: Hampton succeeded Stuart in command
of cavalry corps after the Wilderness.
- p. 27: Gen. Wright: probably Horatio Gouverneur Wright,
commander of the 6th Corps.
- p. 30: Gen. Tyler: Rober Ogden Tyler, commander of the 4th
Brig., 2nd Div., 2nd Corps.
- p. 31: Gordon and Early: John Brown Gordon, commanded his
Ga. Brigade at Wilderness and Spotsylvania. Major
General Early, commanded Ewell's Div. at Wilderness and
Spotsylvania.
- p. 31: Col Bankhead: Lt. Col. and Asst. Inspector General.
- p. 32: Gen. Hunt: Henry Jackson Hunt, Chief of Artillery. In
charge of siege at Petersburg.
- p. 33: Gen. Russell's Div.: perhaps David Allen Russell,
commander of 1st Div., 6th Corps.
- p. 37: Rosser's Cavalry: Thomas Lafayette Rosser, C.S.A. general.
- p. 38: Torbert's Cavalry: Torbert led 1st Div., Cav. Corps.

- p. 41: Crittenden's Div. of the 9th Corps.: Thomas Leonidas Crittenden, commander of the 1st Div.
- p. 41: Major General Henry Heth; fought at Wilderness and Spotsylvania.
- p. 45: Gen. Lockwood: commanded 2nd Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 54: Wilson's Cavalry: James Harrison Wilson, commander of 3rd Div., Cavalry Corps at Spotsylvania.
- p. 62: Petersburg: siege lasting from June, 1864 to May, 1865.
- p. 62: Kautz's Cavalry: Augustis Valentine Kautz's Cavalry Div., Va.
- p. 63: Butler: perhaps Thomas Harvey Butler.
- p. 64: abbatis: an obstacle formed of trees felled toward the enemy.
- p. 65: Dearing's Cavalry: James Dearing, C.S.A. general; commanded a cavalry division.
- p. 66: Alabama Regt. of Pickett's Div.: George Edward Pickett, C.S.A. general famed for his "Pickett's Charge" at Gettysburg.
- p. 71: Tilden: Charles William Tilden, union officer.
- p. 71: Mahone's Div.: William ("Little Billy") Mahone, C.S.A. general, present at the Petersburg crater.
- p. 72: Willcox's Div.: Commanded 3rd Div., 9th Corps at Wilderness and Spotsylvania.
- p. 74: Maj. Duane: chief of engineers of Army of the Potomac.
- p. 74: Gen. Gregg: David McMurtree, Cavalry Div.
- p. 74: Ferrero's colored troops: Brigadier General Ferrero commanded the black 4th Division, 9th Corps, at Petersburg mine explosion.

- p. 76: Smyth's Brig.: Thomas Alfred Smyth, commanded 2nd Div., 2nd Corps, A.P.
- p. 78: Gen. Ord: Edward Otho Ord, commanded 24th Corps at Petersburg.
- p. 79: Bragg: Edward Stuyvesant, commanded 3rd Brig, 3rd Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 79: Ledlie's Div.: Manes Hewitt Ledlie, commanded 1st Div., 9th Corps at Petersburg. Regarded as being lazy.
- p. 81: Baxter's Brig.: DeWitt Clinton Baxter, commanded 2nd Brigade, 2nd Div., 2nd Corps.
- p. 82: Maj. Hazard's batteries: John Gardner Hazard, 1st R.I. Artillery.
- p. 87: Willcox and Tilton: Orlando Bolívar Willcox, general commanding the 3rd Div., 9th Corps at Petersburg and the Wilderness. William Stowell Tilton, commanding the 1st Brig., 1st Div., 5th Corps.
- p. 88: Hoffman's Brig.: probably Henry C. Hoffman.
- P. 89: Gen.Hays: William Hays, commanded 2nd Div., 2nd Corps at Petersburg.
- p. 91: Mott's Div.: Gershom Mott, led 3rd Div., 3rd Corps.
- p. 93: Tilden's Brig.: Charles William Tilden, colonel.
- p. 93: Roger Pryor: C.S.A. general, captured at Petersburg.