Letter to
Editor
New York Times
"Marked not to be seen."

No 8

Subject

President Howard vs. Hancock

Gettysburg
HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., July 10th, 1888.

The,

Editor New York Times,
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

A copy of your issue of July 2nd, is just received at my office in San Francisco. I take the following extract from the article "On Gettysburg's Field."

"Many ask why General Howard is not here, and to these is pointed out the main gate of the old cemetery, with the remark: 'There's the spot where Hancock and Howard exchanged courtesies on the night of the first day's fight.' It was there that Hancock informed Howard that Meade had instructed the superb to take command of the field, and it was there that Howard claimed that he outranked Hancock. He paid no attention but issued his orders and found them obeyed."

The above extract is like so many things of the same kind which has so much truth in it, that it almost conceals the untruth and so is calculated to create a wrong impression.

General Hancock did come to me at the time I was forming the troops on Cemetery Hill just at the close of the first day's action.
HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC

San Francisco, Calif., July 10th, 1888.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express my gratitude for the article appearing in the New York Times of July 9th, under the title "The Mexican War: The Mexican War: A Copy of Your Speech of July 9th, and the Facts Surrounding It".

I appreciate the accuracy and fairness of your reporting. It is evident from the article that there is a great deal of misunderstanding and prejudice in the public's perception of the events of the Mexican War. I believe that your article has helped to dispel some of the myths and misconceptions that have surrounded this important event.

The article also mentions the speech I gave at the San Francisco Convention. I am pleased to hear that it was well received and that it had a positive impact on the attendees. I hope that the experience was memorable for them and that it inspired them to learn more about the Mexican War and its significance.

Thank you again for your work on this article. I am confident that it will continue to educate and inform readers about this important period in American history.

Sincerely,

[Name]
and while skirmishing was yet going on. He and I did have an interview near the Cemetery gate but no controversy whatever.

As I understood him at the time, he was sent by General Meade without his troops to represent him (Meade) on that field. So that with this understanding, though I was his senior, I should have most cheerfully conformed to any instructions that he gave me; but he gave me no instructions whatever, either in his own name or that of General Meade.

We arranged together in an instant that he should take one side of the Baltimore pike and I the other, for rushing the troops into position.

I did not know till three hours after, the actual orders that General Hancock had received. Then a copy of them came to me by a special messenger from the Headquarters of General Meade.

It has been frequently sought by people who have brighter imaginations than memories to represent a quarrel between me and General Hancock on the field of Gettysburg.

Such a quarrel never existed. I did my work and it must go for what it is worth. Hancock did his gallantly and well, and has gone to his reward.

I hope that occasions like that at Gettysburg will not be taken advantage of to injure or belittle the reputation of soldiers which have been honestly earned and become matter of public record.
He said, "and I did have my wife stay at home, and her writing the previous week's column for the New York Times."

While understanding this, I felt that it was important to represent my point of view, so I took up the matter with the understandings, figuring I was the senator I should have more opportunities to do this sort of thing. I gave my name at first of General McCabe's.

We arranged together to an interesting fact that I should take care of the Department, and I the other, for receiving the reports into position.

I did not know until three hours after the speech about the General McCabe had received a special messenger from the Headquarters of General McCabe.

If he had been a memory of some of the reports to me, I might have known so promptly. I gave my name and it would have done me no good. I would not let it be written.

McCarver and his Secretary said, well, and pass gone to the law.

I hope that occasion the Sperry of General McCabe will not go to a new sauce of to it.

Can enumerate all to your great or political importance. Solange with your poor, your poor, and become matter of public record.
Very truly yours,

Major General U.S. Army.
Do not read.

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Vera Flanders Horne

Walter General U.S. Army