Chancellorsville.

The writer has so often told the story of the battle and campaigning around Chancellorsville that it is difficult for him to give the substantial facts without considerable repetition of descriptions and of illustrations.

A few years ago General Fitzhugh Lee, who commanded the cavalry force under Stonewall Jackson, was with me at Gettysburg studying the situation of his uncle’s command during the battle there. Just before we parted Fitzhugh said: “General Howard, do you know that at Chancellorsville I was riding with my cavalry in the forest, beyond Jackson’s left flank after he had gotten into position west of your command, I then discovered your right brigade under von Gilsa? It was seen from the top of a hill covered with trees. While I could see the men of the brigade very clearly with my field glass they could not see me. I rode back and told Jackson what I had discovered. His divisions were so located that they would have come smack against your front. Jackson rode with me to the woody height, took a good look and then went back and marched his command by the flank over to that place.” This threw new light upon the whole march of Jackson’s troops and modified the character of his last advance and attack of the 11th corps.

Any good map of Virginia will show where the Rapidan flows into the Rappahannock: this junction is just north of the hamlet called Chancellorsville. From that point the Rappahannock runs between three and four miles eastward to a ford and then flows southward for three miles more; it now turns eastward again and flows east and northeast so as to form a horse-shoe bend. On the south between the two rivers our readers will find the battle lines of the two armies, namely the army of the Potomac under Hooker and the Army of Northern Virginia under Lee. Hooker had five army corps namely
The writer was often told the story of the battle and camp.

...it was difficult for him to give the general facts with certainty, especially as General Lee was a close friend of the family.

In the center of the force under General Jackson were with me at the operation of the unique's command during the battle. I was with General Howard, I was with my company in the forest.

I had to run and I was running into position near beyond Jackson. I met Jackson after I had gotten into position near our line of battle. I was near from the top of a hill covered with trees. A white flag was seen on the hill of the prairie very clearly with my field glasses. I could see the men of the prairie very clearly with my field glasses. They would have come covered. It was obvious that they would have come covered.

Jackson rode with me to the mouth of the river. We saw smoke extend your front. Jackson rode with me to the mouth of the river. The smoke and smoke extended to a long way and then we could see three miles away. It was a good place to form the battle line of the river.

Any fog of Virginia will show where the Rebel lines

...into the Rebel soldiers... The smoke was very thick. From the point of the river... Three miles and your mile east; to a long way and then you could see your mile east; to a long way and then you could see the smoke. It was to form a good smoke to...
the main face was eastward. The greater part of the command followed a ridge and the whole was east of the Rapidan; our left under Meade was at the horse shoe bend. The front of the skirmish line ran along the Mineral Spring road, covering Chancellorsville. The main line continued on westerly through lower ground and retired in the vicinity of Dowdall’s Tavern. Beyond Dowdall’s was a slight backward hook in the main line partially encircling Talley’s farm. Here was a clear opening in the almost interminable forest between the Pike and the Orange plank road. The "Pike" is the old roadway running toward Chancellorsville, touches the edge of Talley’s farm and makes an angle of about 40 degrees with the plank road. On the day of Jackson’s attack, General Hooker was at Chancellorsville. Slocum and Hancock in his front with commands to the right and left. French’s division was behind me toward the Rapidan and my corps the 11th, was on the right in the neighborhood of Dowdall’s Tavern; Sickles three corps connected mine with Slocum’s.

Hooker’s whole line following the sinuosities, was between four and five miles in extent. His cavalry under Stoneman was raiding upon Lee’s communications. The remainder of the army of the Potomac was in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, operating against that city and the Confederates near by. Lee’s army the day before this battle was a little over two miles distant from our front, towards Fredericksburg and facing us,—it was between our army and Sedgwick. Lee’s divisions which were large,—I mean those immediately with him were commanded by McLaw, Anderson, Rodes, Colston, and A. P. Hill. He had besides, cavalry under Stuart. Lee had his front running from the Rappahannock to the Catherine Furnace—two miles and one half in extent. His right wing was behind Motts Run.
The main face was eastward. The greater part of the command lay toward a ridge and the whole rear east of the Tappan on the left and rear of the critical line. The river was of the near shore, covering the area of Tappan's farm and making an angle of about 40 degrees with the skyline. On the left of the main road was a light of General Hood's attack. The cavalry, composed of the rear division and cavalry, was in the activity of the 4th of July, and the battle began. The battle was a little over two miles distant from our front.
which flows due east into the Rappahannock, and his left wing stretched along the Catherine Furnace wagon road.

Could General Hooker have had a clear cut map and description such as we have to-day, he could have assailed General Lee's position with every prospect of success; but he did not have them. He moved to attack, the first day of May, but just as soon as we were engaged in close conflict with an operation of the confederate army, Hooker ordered us to the position which I have described,—in fact very many of our troops had not left that position at all.

It was on Thursday before the Saturday battle that the three corps Meade's, Slocum's and mine had crossed the Rapidan and reached the vicinity of Chancellorsville, where at first Slocum established his headquarters. I halted my corps near Dowdall's Tavern. Then I rode along the plank road eastward to the Chancellorsville House; there I met Slocum who was commanding the 12th Corps. He ordered me to cover the right of the general line; he pointed to a place on the map marked "Mill," on a branch of Hunting Creek back of Dowdall's Tavern and said: "Establish your right there." Slocum promised to occupy the space his headquarters to Dowdall's Tavern with the 12th corps. A little later he found the distance too great and so directed me to fill about 3/4 of a mile of that space along the plank road. I regretted this because it took from me a large proportion of the troops that I had relied upon as reserves, which I knew to be necessary to give security to the right flank of the army.

Dowdall's Tavern was the home of Melzie Chancellor, who had a large family, many of them adults. I placed my headquarters near his house. Before me facing south was von Steinwehr's division. He had two large brigades, Bushbeck in front and
which flows are shut into the Reservoirs, and the fall which falls.

Cary's Grove. Hooker have any officer on map and get a copy sent by the carriage Caius with every block of such a put the hips of them.

He wanted to attack the left of the way, put it as soon as we were ready to strike, and join our position at the Conference.

Only Hooker ordered me to the position where I have described in the left very much of our troops and not tell that position at all.

It was on Thursday before the Battle of Resignation that the three corps.

Message to Burnham and mine had occurred to me and offered the activity of Cancellationville, where at that time Burnham sat and asked the presence of the Chancellorsville House.

Then I followed my corps to Dowall's Tavern. There I

took the plain road eastward to the Chancellorsville House.

There I met General who was commanding the corps. He ordered me to order the light of the General Fine to a point on the map marked "MITT" on a position of the General Fine to a point on the map marked "MITT" on a position of the General Fine to a point on the map marked "MITT" on a position of the General Fine to a point on the map marked "MITT."
Barlow's near the plank road. Bushbeck held a mile of line with two
regiments in reserve. His reserve was kept 200 yards behind us, near
the little "Wilderness Church". Now came Carl Schurz's division;
with Dilger's battery near by. We were all fond of Dilger, a tall,
hearty and handsome young man. He directed his cannon toward the
southwest and watched the plank road westerly. Next to Dilger was
Krzyzanowski brigade, half in front and half in reserve. Schimmelpfennig's brigade was beyond
; like the others, Schimmelpfennig's
division ran along the old turnpike road, facing to the southwest.
The three division of the 11th corps was under Devens, afterward
Attorney General in Hayes Cabinet. Devens accompanied me in my in-
spection of the plank road and old turnpike for at least three
miles west of Schurz. When this inspection was made with much care,
was finished, Devens put his second brigade, (McLeans), on the right
then coming out on the pike one-half mile, he located von Gilsa's
at right angle to his line, facing a little northwest. As he had
not troops enough for a solid line, Devens commanded parts of it by
skirmishers. Later von Gilsa's brigade was drawn back to make
a more solid, and so (as Devens thought) the reserves of the corps
could be brought more promptly to its assistance, should the confeder-
ates, by any possibility, get so far round to the north. A section
of one of his batteries located along the pike established this at the
angle Deven's line. A reserve battery furnishing twelve
cannon was put to the west of Dowdall's Tavern and pointed toward
the northwest and north to protect von Gilsa's right flank. Just
there were some open fields and a gently ascending slope, these batteries
I stood during the battle. It was a central
spot, quite elevated. From this position the assailed could en
filade either roadway, and could meet an attack from the south, west,
perform a near the Plank Line. Harbour head a mile of line with two
remaining in reserve. If the reserve were kept 200 yards behind the near

the little "Willowense Camp."

Now came Capt. Sunderland's division.

with little a battery near p.v. We were still long of director a field

if the reserve were kept 200 yards behind the near

Armstrong's battery, north to front any fall in reserve. Sunderland

planning a bridge of wood barging

of the bridge was going.

The reserve was in the line of the Plank Line was under Deane, effective.

Attack by General Travers, Camp.

Deane's accompanying me in my inde-

expedition of the Plank Line and on the right of this position as would with much care.

right of Scudamore, when the inspection was made with much care.

was inspected, Deane but the reserve placed (Melbourne), on the right

then corner out on the bike one-pair mile, be located own rifle.

at right angle to the line, located a little northwest.

not through eastern for a folly line, Deane commanding part of it by

fence under Scudamore's. Afternoon Galle's, bridge across, west of the reserve of the corps

of more using, and so as Deane's, fronting the reserve of the counter-

steam, and possibility yet for the Plank Line, Northwesterly and positioning toward

common was but to the west of Donaldson's Turret my position toward

the reservoirs to south to protect own Galle's right flank.

there were some open fields and a reserve's southern edge.

would getting the battle. It was a cardinal

from this position the reserve could go

again after knowledge, my comrades after the south, west
or north by a slight change of front. Here near this spot some protection for the batteries was constructed and a line of cross-entrenchments prepared. These extended from a little church to a field. The lines of my corps including the reserves occupied a position something like a large fort with an opening toward Chancellorville. After, General Sickles came and generously took that 3/4 of a mile north of Dowdall's Tavern, I was much comforted; because it gave me all of Barlow's large brigade as a reserve, with which in case of any turning movement of the Confederates, I could fill our cross-entrenchments.

With regard to our pickets and skirmishers, our brigade had a complete cover from them. My aide-de-camp Major C. H. Howard had faithfully located the outer lines, and another excellent officer of my staff Eliphalet Whittlesey had ridden the entire circuit of the pickets and found them alert and well placed for quick observation. General Duvall had covered the right division with skirmishers quite a distance beyond his position and had picket stations from a mile to a mile and a half on the roads of approach.

The three farms Dowdall's, Talley's and Hawkins' beyond the visible openings of which we had glimpses from my headquarters, touched upon that great Wilderness which became so famous in the subsequent operations of our armies. In this singular woods were stunted trees, such as scraggy oaks, bushy firs, cedars and junipers, all entangled with a thick, almost impenetrable undergrowth and criss-crossed with an abundance of wild vines. Indeed the forest appeared impassable on all the south and southwest fronts, so that with extreme difficulty our skirmishers worked their way even in the most favorable spots. The officers of the 11th corps were not satisfied with the position and naturally so because we had a flank in air which...
...
which was at least four miles from Ely's ford where was stationed General Hooker's cavalry picket. General Carl Schurz criticized this location as follows: "Our right ought to have been drawn back toward the Rapidan to rest on that river which was near the mouth of Hunting Creek, the corps abandoning so much of the plank road as to enable it to establish a solid line." My answer to this:

"We were ordered to Dowdall's Tavern and not to Ely's ford, four miles to our rear, and instructed to fix our right at a mill on Hunting Creek." We did not find the "Mill", but the exact point was not doubted, we however, that the position which General Schurz after the action so ably recommended, was the very position into which Hooker's army was forced, by which he was so cramped that in his judgement he could not subsequently take the offensive.

Hooker's aggregate in the battles lines I have described was in the neighborhood of ninety thousand men. His right corps, the 11th had exactly twelve thousand. Lee had with his lines confronted us with about forty thousand effective, he had besides cannon with his infantry and with his cooperating cavalry.

When quite young I remember well, that my brother and myself several times found our way to a shelving rock from which we could watch the wind and rain storms which would spring up from the mountains of New Hampshire, and sweep across the hills and valleys and rivers toward us; ever increasing in breath and height as they approached; the sudden gusts and whirlwinds; the sideling swallows excitedly seeking shelter; the swift and swifter, black and blacker clouds; ever ascending higher and pushing their angry fronts towards us. As we listened we heard the low rumbling from afar; as the storm came nearer, the woods bent forward, fiercely shaking their thick branches; the lightening zigzagged in flashes and the deep basset
which were all present when I arrived here where we were stationed.

General Hooker's cavalry brigade under General Gresham, at
position as follows: Our left advanced have been thrown back five
miles and the expedition to return on the river which we feared the mouth of
Hunting Creek the corps advancing so much of the time as to make
it impossible to estimate the chances of either side.

We were ordered to Douall's Tavern and not to delay at a mile on Hunting Creek.

We did not find the "Mill" but the great point was not
found. However, we went to the position which General Shank
occupied, after the action so early recommended by the very position
into which Hooker's army was forced, a position to which we were in manuscript.

The engagement was continued not suspending the troops

Hooker's surprise in the battles since I have seen.

The right occupied was in the neighborhood of Henry House branched. Four
of these the 11th had exactly cleared the house. Two and half the these
converted to a most spurious command, where the regimental carriers

When I return home I remember well my steps my porter and my

As we advanced, we passed the town, celebrating their triumphs,

no longer entire; the troops, now reduced in numbers, were

proceed; the situation was altered in troops and the great need
thunder echoed more loudly, till there was scarcely an interval between the ominous crashing discharges. It was very like early storms to us as we intently listened and observed from the high ground near Dowdall's Tavern; the first symptoms appeared to be far away. Then there was a rattling of rifle shooting like the hail on a flat roof. It began with Buskbeck's skirmishers and passed on to Schimmelpfennig's. Schimmelpfennig at once sent forward a brigade which soon encountered some confederate cavalry and artillery, which proved to be a moving reconnaissance passing along our entire front with a view of determining for Lee, as precisely as possible, the exact location of the 11th corps. He had, however, obtained better information from the civilians in our vicinity who had been freed from restraint by the forward movement of the day before. We had forgotten to take them with us. When we returned to the old position we found a number of the inhabitants who were said to have taken with them small baskets of provisions, very suspiciously absent from their homes. I always believed that they were welcome visitors to the conference of Lee's and Jackson's, the night before, where checker boxes were used for tables; the conference that was to result in a remarkable movement under the direction of "Stonewall Jackson" the next day. In formal language General Lee has recorded the result of this remarkable interview: "It was therefore resolved to endeavor to turn Hooker's right flank and gain his rear, leaving the force in front to hold him in check and conceal the movement". The execution of this plan was entrusted to Lieutenant General Jackson with his three divisions.

Jackson's enterprise which was not clear to us began about sun rise of the second of May. His three divisions under, Rodes, Colston and A. P. Hill reached the Catherine Furnace road.
From the Furnace the column continued toward the south, in order to mask Jackson's intentions. He appeared to be aiming for the Orange Court House. As soon as his advance was well covered by the forest, his men swept round the different forest routes toward the plank road. On they went at least a mile further, till the Orange-pike was uncovered and passed. While Jackson was working his command and massing his divisions opposite the 11th corps, several miles away from Dowdall's Tavern, our men were taking their observations of these mysterious operations. The Catherine Furnace was about two miles and one half from Sickles and Steinwehr's positions and they had open view of Jackson's moving brigades. With the exception of this exposure, the confederate movements were well covered by the thick forests and by Fitzhugh Lee's active cavalry.

Not long after sun rise, we heard some loud cheering. It was a hearty sound with too much bass in it to indicate a confederate charge. It soon proved to be the coming of General Hooker, his staff and escort. They were riding along the rear of our lines of battle and inspecting our situation and prospects for action. General Sickles in his report notices this visit of the commanding general: "It is impossible to pass over without mention the irrepressible enthusiasm of the troops for Major General Hooker. It was evinced in hearty and prolonged cheers as he rode along the lines of the 12th, 3rd and 11th corps". With my staff, I joined the cavalcade. Hooker noticed our breastworks and such trenches as we had, and while we passed along from regiment to regiment, referring to our protecting logs and ditches he said: "How strong!" "How Strong!"
from the entrance of the opening containing the route. It
ought to mark Jackson's intentions. He appeared to arrive for the
orange coat house. As soon as the advance was well covered by the
fog, the men swept around the different court routes toward the
black road. On they went at least a mile further. All the orange
fields were now closer and pressed. "The Jackson was working in the
company." men reported. The dragoon charge to defend the
safety of the operation. The cavalry charge was spent two
miles and one half from Stoker's and Steinhauer's positions and
they have opened it at Jackson's orders. Without the execution of
this exposure the complete movement were well covered by the
fog and any Polyglot Jew's safety. I see.

Not long after my face, I was beaten some long moments. It was
a pretty sound with too much base in it to imagine a complete plate.
It soon became to be the coming of General Hooker, the staff and escort.

Then we pitch over the rear of our lines and battle any important
attention and instruction for section. General Stiles in his report
notices the plight of the commandant. General: "It is impossible to bear

not a word without mention the tremendous enthusiasm of the troops for
General Hooker. It was evident in every mouth with polonaise appears
as he rode along the lines of the first, and every inch corps. With
my seat, I moved the cavaliage. Hooker noticed our present work and
made references as we passed my while we passed from regiment to reg-
iment referring to our present. Jokes and trifles go by:
"How

Strange!"
Colonel Comstock, Hooker's engineer observed the extension of my command and saw the frequent breaks in the line where there were no troops and said to me: in his own quiet way: "General Howard do close in those spaces!" I answered inquiringly, "Why Comstock, the woods are thick and entangled, could any body come through there?" He replied: "Oh! they might!"

A little later I took pains to follow his hints.

Later in the forenoon Sickles and I observed the movement at the Furnace after Hooker had returned to his headquarters. From the turn that the confederate column made near the Furnace, everybody said "Lee is pushing toward Orange Court House." We forwarded every notice of information obtained to Hooker's headquarters. Hooker thought as others. He thought he divined Lee's purpose; but he was in error. "Lee," caught between us and Sedgewick as between an upper and a lower mill stone, was surely retreating.

At twelve mid day, Sickles received orders from General Hooker to advance his command southward, cautiously. This he did.

By two P.M. I concluded that a battle had begun, because there was a sharp skirmish going on near the Furnace. Then active musketry firing, which was quickly followed by a more pronounced cannonade. I sent this news to my division commander with instructions to be ready for action. The enemy was reported to be in full retreat. Sickles' operations and particularly the pushing on of Burnside's sharp shooters, which succeeded in capturing all near the entire regiment appeared to have determined Hooker's mind, and he so telegraphed to Sedgewick: "Lee is in full retreat!" It was just then that Captain Moore of Hooker's staff in the name of his general directed me to send my largest brigade, Barlow's to reinforce Sickles, near the Catherine
Furnace. I sent my aide-de-camp to ascertain just where to locate this brigade. On his return, General Steinwehr and I accompanied the brigade part of the way, so that we could take in the situation of Sickles with reference to our own position. It was past four O'clock when there was much excitement between groups of officers along our lines. It was occasioned by the reports of squads of cavalry rushing down the roads toward us and then withdrawing. Dever's and several of his officers sent information to my headquarters as they could gather it. From their highest point they had glimpses of troops passing across the plank road and moving northward. I then sent out scouts who in a short time returned with statements, that the enemy was not more than three or four miles from our front and was marching. General Schurz came to me and we had quite a lengthy conversation with reference to our position. We were both anxious with regard to the advance and flank, so that with my sanction, Schurz moved a part of his reserves into a fairly good position to cover the advance right.
Pursuant to my orders and to secretarial staff, I proceed to locate the
purposes of the return. General Stenmark may I accompany the party
with reference to our own position. It was part of our O-8 book when
there was some evidence of the reports of escape of several prisoners. The
it was necessary of the troops of several prisoners. The
impossible in my plan with the aid of several and several of the officers
front plan and my plan with the aid of several and several of the officers
sent information to my headquarters as they could be seen. I sent
sent information to my headquarters as they could be seen. I sent
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and my wanting information. I sent the front plan, and the front plan,
Devens kept two good regiments in reserve for a like purpose, and, in fact, General Steinwehr's whole division could be faced about to meet anything coming from the north. About this time a few troops of cavalry were sent me by Pleasanton. I dispatched them to the out woods. "Go," I said, "beyond my right; go far, and let me know if an assault is coming." All of my staff, Colonels Ammussert and Mey-ensenberg, Majors Whittlesey and Howard, Captains Schofield, Dessauer, Stinson, Schierer and Hoffman were keenly on the alert to carry my orders and keep everybody on the qui vive. We did not have a good military position for the corps; but we did intend to make a strong fight should the enemy come to any part of our front. It was uncertain just where the Confederates would approach.

General Hooker's "joint order to Slocum and Howard" Schurz says, did come to my headquarters, and that he did show it to me. If so, every word of it was carried out to the letter, so far as Hooker's I could do so, subject to his subsequent instructions.

Devens, Schurz and Von Steinwehr, my Division commanders and myself, did precisely and in detail all that that order required. The three reserve batteries were put in position facing northward and the Infantry reserve, all we had after Hooker had removed Barlow's last brigade, were held well in hand against any emergency. Sickles sent me word by Major Howard that he was about to make a general attack upon Jackson's troops not far from the Catherine Furnace; that for some time he had been driving with the Confederates and expected very soon brilliant results; that he proposed to place my reinforcements (Barlow's brigade) upon his right flank in his forward movement.

Meanwhile, the Confederate General, Rodes, masked, as I have shown by the thick woods, had reached his designated point
Devere kept two good regiments in reserve for a like purpose, and
to meet any emergency coming from the west. About nine o'clock
an officer of cavalry was sent me by General Meade to escort me
out of camp. I asked him to tell me of any wood or river, and let me know
if any enemy was coming. "If so, I say" he said "pen your right to
that point and let me know it."

Meanwhile, the conscripted "soldiers," roving, waylaying,
were nearly in coming. All of my stall, Colonel A. A. Vann and
W. S. B. R., "were about the country, captured, shot, and
killed."

Stouton, Sickles, and Chalmers were keenly on the alert; to
keep my army and keep everything on the double. We had not have a
military position for the enemy to get a start at. I was

informed that the enemy came to any part of the front. I

sent Heavy's division and my division commanders.

Devere, Sickles, and Van Steenwijk, my division commanders,
and my staff and headquarters, were kept all that night alert.

The three reserve batteries were put in position, and

not knowing any of the infantry reserve, all of them after Hooker had

been driven into the river by a last charge, were held well in hand and

were to be used as a general attack upon Jackson's troops not far from the

Chapel. I was informed that for some time he had been advertising with

lutes and notes to place my regiment in front of your position, upon the right.

I thank for your kind suggestion. Meanwhile, the conscripted "soldiers," roving, waylaying,
were nearly in coming. All of my stall, Colonel A. A. Vann and
W. S. B. R., "were about the country, captured, shot, and
killed."

Stouton, Sickles, and Chalmers were keenly on the alert; to
keep my army and keep everything on the double. We had not have a
military position for the enemy to get a start at. I was

informed that the enemy came to any part of the front. I
in the wilderness. By four in the afternoon his men were in position and resting; the line of battle of his own brigade touched the pike west of us with its right and stretched on to the north; just beyond this brigade came Iverson's in the same line. On the right of that brigade was Doles' and farther to the right, Colquitt's brigade. About one hundred yards to the rear of this well formed line was Kemble's division, Colston commanding, Ramser's brigade following Colquitt's. Behind another space of more than one hundred yards the division of A. P. Hill was located. The advance confederate division alone had in it more men than the whole eleventh corps which was in its front. Counting the lines of this formidable column ready for attack from front to rear, we have seven ranks, without reckoning the file-closers. The majority a little later after the moving began were driven into a solid mass by the entanglement of the forest, and gave our skirmishers, as they approached, the belief that the battalions were formed in close columns doubled on the centre.

With as little noise as possible, shortly after five o'clock, the steady advance of our fearless confederates began. The first lively effect, like a cloud of dust driven before a coming storm, appeared in the startled rabbits, squirrels, quails, and other game, flying hither and thither in evident terror, escaping where possible into adjacent clearings.

The foremost men of Doles' brigade an half hour later struck our advance pickets along the pike. The pickets, of course, created against such a force little or no delay. Fifteen minutes afterward Doles again reached our skirmishers. They resisted his front lines a few minutes. Indeed it required a main line of confederates to dislodge them. Doles, concerning this check, remarked:
In the wilderness, the pioneers began to settle in the fertile land of the North.

They were moving to the right, strategizing and preparing for the future.

The pioneers faced many challenges as they ventured into the unknown.

The pioneers were guided by the experience of the Old West, relying on their skills and knowledge.

The pioneers were determined to survive and thrive in their new homes.

The pioneers were respected for their hard work and dedication.

The pioneers were a source of inspiration for future generations.

They were a testament to perseverance and resilience.

The pioneers were a true example of the American spirit.
"After resistance of about ten minutes we drove him (the Yankee enemy) from his position on the left and carried his battery of two guns, caissons and horses." This was undoubtedly Von Gilsa's brigade and section of a battery which he was supporting.

That was the firing which Steinwehr and I heard at Dowsall's Tavern. Immediately after our return from placing Barlow on Sickle Right near the Catherine Furnace, somebody's cannon thundered away for a few minutes and then came the well known fitful rattle of musketry; before I could get again into my saddle this firing increased, and then there arose the ceaseless roar of a terrible storm. Instantly I sent Colonel Asmussen, my Chief of Staff, the first to mount, saying, "The firing is in front of Devens; go and see if all is in order on the extreme right". Asmussen turned at once and galloped away. I mounted and set off with a view of reaching a high point of observation in rear of Schurz' line. I intended to change front to the northwest, using every brigade southeast of the front of attack, in case the attack proved to be Confederate beyond right flank. I divined at once that the enemy was now west and perhaps north of Devens. I had hardly turned my horse when I beheld a cloud of men, not the few stragglers which always fly like the chaff before the wind, but scores of men, rushing out into the forest opening, some with arms and some without. They were running, or falling, before they got behind the cover of Devens' reserves, and before Schurz' waiting masses could spring into line or charge.

The noise and the smoke filled the air with excitement; Diekmann's guns and Keasbey's, plunging along from the extreme right with their batterymen scattered, rolled and tumbled like carts and runaway wagons in a thronged city. The cannon and the masses of the right brigade struck the second line of Devens and quicker than could be
After receipt of report from minutes we drove him (the Yankee one) away and position on the left and carried the battery of two guns, and section of a battery which was supporting.

That was the firing with cannon fire and I heard it distinctly.

We are immediately after our return from pleasure Barton on strike.

Right near the Catherina Prunette's cannon fired.

Event that I went to a few minutes and then came the well known little racket of musketry; before I could get嵌入 into my saddle this firing increased;

and then the noise of the cannon came near.

From infantry I sent Colonel Amseman, my Chief of Staff, to the firing in front of my line, then to a line between Amseman's battery and myself.

If all is warmer on the extreme right.

And once and another way I mounted and went out with a view of

resolving a high point of observation in rear of enemy's line.

intending to charge front to the northwest, note every place

northwest of the point of attack. In case the attack proves to be

continued, I gave orders for the extreme right.

I had already turned my horse when I

and perhaps north of Devane, I had barely turned my horse when I

passed a column of men, not the few regiments with shown in the

the great battery the wind put smoke of men, rushing out into the

forests, among some with arms and some without. They were running,

or yelling, before them for driving the other Devane, Resenose's

and Pogue's Battery! Winding down the hill with expectation.

The smoke and the smoke filled the air with expectant promise.

The cannon and the mass of the right

placed after the enemy line of Devane and Major, given you to be
told, with all the fury of the wildest hailstorm, smashed everything into broken fragments, no organization that lay in its path could stand the mad current of panic-stricken men. It was like the terrible disorder which followed the first Bull Run.

My horse caught the fury; he sprang; he rose high on his hind legs and fell over, hurling me to the ground. My aide Dessauer, by my side, was struck by a shot and killed. For a few moments I was as helpless as the men who were speeding without arms to the rear; but faithful orderlies helped me to remount. At first Carl Schurz was doing all he could to face his regiments about and send them to Devens' northern flank to help those who were still holding on. Devens himself, already badly wounded and several of his officers were doing their best.

When again in the saddle I rode to the reserve batteries. Lieutenant Colonel Dickerson, an aide-de-camp of General Hooker, met me there, and my remaining staff officers gathered around me. We were eager to fill those trenches which faced to the north, and trenches not very deep, it is true, which Barlow, had he been there, would have held.

Bushbecks's second line, near the little Church, I ordered to change front and face the storm. His men kept their ranks very well; it seemed to my impatience that they were not quick enough and I cried out, "Would they never get there?"

Dickerson kept near me, and when he saw our men in front of him giving way, cried to me, "Oh, General, see those men coming from that hill'way off to the right, and there's the enemy after them! Fire, oh, fire at them! You may stop the flight!"

"No, Colonel", I answered, "I will never fire upon my own men." As soon as our men were fairly out of the way, we threw
The sun had set and the quiet of the night had fallen over the camp. We had found a spot to set up our tent and prepare for the night. The men were busy setting up their equipment and the tent was pitched in a clearing surrounded by tall trees. The air was cool and the stars shone brightly in the sky.

We sat around a small campfire, telling stories and sharing laughter. As we built up the fire, we lit a few cigarettes and shared our stories. We talked about our homes, families, and dreams. It was a peaceful setting, and we all felt a sense of camaraderie.

Suddenly, a shot was fired in the distance. We all froze, listening as the sound echoed through the trees. The shot was followed by another, and then another. We looked at each other, our hearts racing.

"They're coming," someone whispered. We all sprang to our feet, grabbing our weapons and preparing for battle. The night was dark, and the sounds of the enemy were all around us.

"Let's move," someone shouted. We began to run, our weapons at the ready. The enemy was close, and we knew we had to act fast. We pushed on, our hearts pounding in our chests.

As we reached the clearing, we saw the enemy soldiers. They were heavily armed, and we knew we had to fight. We charged forward, guns blazing. The battle was fierce, and we fought with all our might.

In the end, we emerged victorious. The enemy soldiers retreated, and we were able to secure the area. We took a moment to catch our breath, our clothes covered in dirt and sweat. We all knew that we had been through a difficult night, but we were strong and we had survived.

As we sat around the campfire, we shared a meal and talked about the battle. We were a team, and we knew that we could overcome any challenge. We were soldiers, and we were ready.
shells and then cannister over their heads. The attacking force came out of the forest in remarkably good order, considering their hindrances. They would halt and fire from their advance lines, and while the first were reloading, another set ran before them, halted and fired. It was all regular enough, but the Confederates came in such multitude that our men went down before them like trees in a hurricane. By extraordinary effort my officers and myself filled up all the cross intrenchments, of course, with fragments of regiments and individual soldiers. Many line officers, who had run away, stopped there and did what they could, but others ran on saying, "We've done all we can." Shierer, my artillery chief, managed the reserve batteries fairly well. Captain Dilgler rolled his balls back along the plank road and kept shelling the woods. General Von Steinwehr was cool, collected and sensible. He had, like Blair at Atlanta, caused his soldiers, who were south of Dowdall's tavern, to spring to the reverse side of his intrenchment, and, facing north, they were ready to fire the instant it was possible to do so without killing our own men.

We will now follow Doles, who led the Confederate attack. Here is a statement in brief:

"After my first successful charge, my command moved forward at the double quick to assault the enemy (that is ourselves), who had taken up a strong position on the crest of the hill in the open field." This strong position was on Hawkins' farm, where Devens and Schurz began their fight, using their reserves. But wave after wave of Confederate infantry came upon them; even their left flank was unprotected the instant the runaways had passed it, and hosts were far beyond their right. To our intense sorrow, those of us who stood by the reserve batteries and had eagerly observed their
After my last necessary orders my command moved for.

Two attacks were made on the enemy's flank in the rear of the first line, where heavy reinforcements were on the move; and their reserves were sent forward. To our immediate sorrow, those of our own ranks at the reserve batteries and my artillery opened fire.

We will now follow Porter, who led the Confederate attack.
bravery, saw them also give way, till the hill and the crest on Hawkins' farm were quickly in the possession of the men in gray. Dolez, who saw so clearly amid screaming shells and the hot excitement of battle, says again, "He (meaning our forces from Schimmelpfennig's and Buschbeck's brigades and part of McLean's) made a stubborn resistance from behind a waddling fence on a hill thick with pine."

Among those stubborn Yankee fighters was Major Jeremiah Williams of the 25th Ohio. The Confederates were drawing near him. His men lowered their rifles and fired with coolness. His right rested among scrubby bushes, while his left was in open ground. The blows of the enemy were murderers in the extreme; whole platoons of his men were falling; yet they held their ground. Williams waited continually, firing till not more than thirty paces intervened between him and the Confederate front; then he ordered the retreat. Of three hundred and twenty-three men and sixteen commissioned officers, one hundred and thirty, including five officers, were killed or wounded. Williams brought a part of the living to the breastworks where I was; the remainder, he declared, had gone off to the rear with another regimental commander. Now all the Confederate rear lines had closed up, and the broad mass began to appear on my left front south of Dowdall's tavern. Then it was, after we had been fighting an hour, that Sickles and Pleasanton's guns began to be heard. They had faced about and moved obliquely towards the northwest and were hurrying artillery, infantry and cavalry into positions to do what they could for our relief.

Much mortified I had come to my last practicable stand. The Confederates were still slowly advancing, firing as they came. The twelve cannon of Schierer increased by a part of Dilger's battery
praying, saw them strive and saw the flag fill and fall, and the great no
hawking! "(Here I saw the history of the possession of the men in many
Dover, where so many of the men had seen the flag fill and the gun-
e"nent of battle, even so, this "we meaning our forefathers' corn-
merities, and New Mexico's Anything any part of Melons' marks
a grandly romantic scene from painting a magnificent poem on a hillside
with paint."

Among those superb Yankee tigers were Westerly Terriers.
William of the Sixth Ohio. The Confederates were gathering near him.

He men lowered their rifles and fired with confidence. The light
passed some scarlet plumes while the fleet was in open ground.
The flag of the enemy were more in the extreme mile. Williams waited
at the near future, not yet fully their strength. Williams waited
continuously till not more than thirty were killed in the dead. The
been hit and the co. Infengeta were to attack the rear.

No the number and twenty-five men and fifteen casualties of
hated, one number and fifty. In the course of the deadly shot, the
William's podiums part of the firing to the present.

Works when I went, the Rememberer, in declaring, had gone. All to the
leer with another regimental commander. Now all the Confederates

Thus, the commander, the second day of Doubtful Reserve. Then the men after me had
gazed at the front, that Stagger and Pleasure's guns began to
perfectly. They had face me and move intently towards the work-
went and were pursuing swiftly, intently and cautiously into that

Hope to go where they come to our feet precipitately again.

The Confederates were still fully advantage, taking as they came.
The firing ceased of Canon of Artillery increased by a yard or different art-

From
tery, fired, but not very effectively, because the battery men kept falling from death and wounds. Suddenly, as if by an order, when a sheet of the enemy's fire reached them, the men in the trenches, for the most part, vacated their positions and ran to the rear. The officers of my staff and others about me put forth every effort to stem the tide, and refill the trenches, but the rush and the panic were too great.

I next ordered a retreat to the edge of the forest toward Chancellorsville, eastward. This uncovered Steinwehr's knoll, the only spot yet firmly held. The batteries, except four pieces, were drawn off and hurried to the rear. The stand at the edge of that forest was necessarily a short one. Steinwehr now brought back his regiments and the whole eleventh corps moved rapidly through the woods and the opening, through low grounds and swampy places the two miles to the first high land west of Hocker's headquarters. Gilger, in a manly way, kept his guns to the rear of the retreating corps, firing constantly as he retired. The confederate masses, partaking of Jackson's energy, rushed after us with triumphant shouts and unceasing firing, so that they secured many prisoners and much plunder.

It was after sundown when, ascending the high ground not far from Chancellorsville, I met General Hiram Berry commanding a brigade.

"Well, General, where now?" he said. I replied, "General Berry, you take the right of this road and I will take the left and try to defend it." I meant the right when we faced to the rear.

Our own batteries with numerous others, extended along the crest of a ridge, and with Steinwehr's troops faced to the rear. Then a terrible cannonade has begun all along that formidable posi-
first line", but not very effective, because the patterned repeti-
tion pattern is green and yellow. Suddenly, as it gets on another, when a
fleet of the enemy's finest vessels from the rear. They approach the
fleets and attack positions and rear to the rear. The
fleet on the left, another group of ships and others spread out farther away after
the fleet and yet, behind the trenches, put the umpire and the
piano
were too great.

I next observed a request to the age of the forest to
were Chancellorsville, eastward. This morning's statement's kind,
the only shot we had fired. The pattern, except your location,
the stand at the edge were drawn off and retiring to the rear. The
replacements now provide
of that forest was necessary a short one. Satisfied now

peak the remaining and the whole elevation could move rapidly
through the normal, through the opening, through the blown-up, west to Hooker's head.

please the two miles to the other high land west of Hooker's head.

"Fighting General, I'm afraid I can't do it," said General. "The Congress
"Well, General, where would you say I'd be?" I asked. "General"

Perry, you take the right of the force and I will take the left and
my to follow it. I meant the right when we reached to the rear.

Our own batteries with immense power, exchanged shell
the aspect of a lighter, and with Stennis's troops reach to the rear.

Then a carriage pronounced as seems all strange that formidable part.
tion and continued into the night. Everybody fired into the forest now replete with confederates and disorganized in their exciting chase. The strenuous efforts of Stonewall Jackson to advance in the face of that fire were effectually barred. It was in the edge of that forest where General Berry had entered, that he met his death. In there that evening Stonewall Jackson also fell, in front of Berry's command, said to have been fired on by mistake by his own men. It was here that officers of the eleventh corps successfully rallied their scattered brigades and helped in the defence, till they were sent, during the night, to replace the fifth army corps, which had been brought away from the left of Hooker's general line. Years ago I wrote concerning the causes of the discomfiture of my command as follows:

1st. I was limited by orders to the position to be defended. Though constantly threatened and apprised of the moving of the enemy in a westerly direction, yet the woods were so dense that he was able to mass a large force (much larger than mine) whose exact whereabouts, neither patrols, reconnaissances, nor scouts actually ascertained. Jackson succeeded in forming a column about three times my strength in the forest opposite to and outflanking my right.

2nd. By the panic produced by the enemy's reversed fire (from flank and rear) regiments and artillery were thrown suddenly upon my men in position.

3rd. The absence of Barlow's brigade, which I had previously located in reserve and an echelon with Colonel Von Gilser's (Devens' right flank) so as to cover that position. This was the only general reserve which I had.

Stonewall Jackson was victorious. His enemies praise him.
The general order that the 7th Maine was to advance to the right and continue into the night set out in part as:

"The advance of the 7th Maine to the right will be made in the order as they are called to the front, each battery in their order, with the like distance between them, and each battery to advance with its entire command in line, and the right company to advance in skirmish order."
him; but, fortunately for our cause, it was the last battle that he waged against the American Union. In bold planning, in energy of execution, in indefatigable activity and moral ascendency, Stonewall stood Jackson, head and shoulders above his confreres, and after his death, General Lee could not replace him.

In his prayers, I was told by General Colquitt, after peace came, that Jackson pleaded for success, but never for his own life. He attained marvelous successes for himself and for Lee, and the last one was indeed his greatest achievement. Amid the joy of victory his spark of life went out in meteoric splendor.

I was beaten; I was mortified beyond expression, till, like Jonah, watching Ninevah, I wanted to die. It was not to be. After that I had success after success to the end of the war. At Chancellorsville I passed through the valley and the shadow of death, yet I lived to see my own petition fully and abundantly granted in the triumph of the Union cause and the reunion of all the States.