

GRANT'S LIFE.

Extracts from the General's Personal Memoirs--The Interview with Lincoln.

His Peculiar Feelings Just Before the First Battle Humorously Described.

How Chattanooga Was Saved--The Wilderness Campaign--Various Other Anecdotes.

The crowning work of Gen. Grant's life--his personal memoirs, written by himself, is practically complete, and in the hands of the publishers. There will be two volumes, of 500 pages each. The first will contain the family genealogy and a history of the General's boyhood and youth. It will have for frontispiece an engraving of Lieut. U. S. Grant at the age of 21. The second volume deals mainly with the events of the war of the rebellion. The text will be freely illustrated by plans and maps showing the maneuvers of the armies on the various fields of battle. The volume treats of the battle of Chattanooga, Hood's fight in the clouds on Lookout Mountain, and all the subsequent operations up to the great battle of the Wilderness. The capture of Atlanta, Sherman's march to the sea, and his operations in Georgia, North and South Carolina, as well as Sheridan's raid down the Shenandoah Valley and his victory at Five Forks, are described. The Appomattox campaign, ministrating with the final scene of Lee's surrender at McLean's house, is graphically told. The author's own, and the story of Lee's sword are authentically related. The first volume contains little of interest. The story of Grant's early life as told by himself is conventional and quite devoid of exciting incident. But in the second volume, where the memoirs deal with the thrilling events of the war, the simple, lucid style in which the work is written is pleasing, and the interest never flags.

From advance sheets of the work the following extracts are taken:

Writing of 1861, Gen. Grant says: "Going home for a day or two soon after a conversation with Gen. Pope, I wrote from Galena the following letter to the Adjutant General of the army:

"GALENA, Ill., May 24, 1861.

"Col. L. Thomas, Adjutant General U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

"Sir--Having served for fifteen years in the regular army, including four years at West Point, and feeling it the duty of every one who has been educated at the Government's expense to offer his services in the support of that Government, I have the honor to tender my services until the close of the war in such capacity as may be offered. I would say, in view of my present age and length of service, I feel myself competent to command a regiment if the President in his judgment should see fit to intrust one to me. Since the first call of the President I have been serving on the staff of the Governor of this State, rendering such aid as I could in the organization of the State militia, and am still engaged in that capacity. A letter addressed to me at Springfield, Ill., will reach me. I am very truly, your obedient servant, U. S. GRANT."

Gen. Grant, describing his first battle in the civil war, says:

"As soon as the enemy saw us they decamped as fast as their horses would carry them. I kept my men in the ranks and forbade their entering any of the deserted houses or taking anything from them. We halted at night on the road and proceeded the next morning at an early hour. Harris had been encamped in a creek bottom for the night, being near the hills on either side of the creek, and had a considerable height, possibly more than 100 feet. As we approached the brow of the hill, from which it was expected we could see Harris' camp and possibly find his men ready formed to meet us, my heart kept getting higher and higher, until it felt to me as though it was in my throat. I would have given anything then to have been back in Illinois, but I had not the courage to turn and consider what to do. I kept right on. We were in a thick forest, which the valley below was in full view. I had encamped a few days before was still there, and the marks of a recent encampment were plainly visible, but the troops were gone. My heart resumed its place. It occurred to me at once that Harris had been as much afraid of me as I had been of him. This was a view of the question I had never taken before, but it was one I never forgot afterwards. From that event to the close of the war I never experienced trepidation on confronting an enemy.

"At the battle of Belmont, fearing that the enemy we had seen crossing the river below might be coming upon us unawares, I rode out in the field to our front--still entirely alone--to observe whether the enemy was passing. The field was grown up with corn so tall and thick as to cut off the view of even a person on horseback, except directly along the rows. Even in that direction, owing to the commanding nature of the corn, the view was not extensive. I had not gone more than a few hundred yards when I saw a line of rebels marching past me not forty yards away. I looked at them for a moment, and then turned my horse toward the river, and started back, first in a walk, and when I thought myself concealed from the view of the enemy as fast as my horse could carry me. When at the river bank I still had to ride a few hundred yards to the point where the nearest transport lay. The corn-field, in front of our transports, terminated at the edge of a dense forest. We are in a thick forest, which had entered this forest and had opened a bridle path up the boats. Our men, with the exception of details that had gone to the front after the wounded, were now either aboard the transports or very near them. Those who were not on board soon got there, and the boats pushed off. I was the only man of the national army between the rebels and our transports. The captain of a boat that had just pushed out, but had not started, turned his boat, and ordered the engine not to start the engine. He then took a plank ran out for me. My horses were to take in the situation. There was no rail on the bank, and every one acquainted with the Mississippi knows that its banks in a natural state do not vary at any great angle from the perpendicular. My horse put his fore feet over the bank without hesitation or urging, and with his hind feet well under him slid down the bank and trotted aboard the boat, twelve or fifteen feet away, over the rail, and was dismounted.

"The description of the battle of Shiloh given by Col. William Preston Johnston is very graphic and well told. The reader will imagine that he can see at each blow struck a demoralized and broken mob of Federal soldiers, each blow sending the enemy more demoralized than ever toward the Tennessee River, which was a little more than two miles away at the beginning of the onset. If the reader does not stop to consider, with such Confederate success for more than twelve hours of hard fighting, the national troops were not at all likely to be captured or driven into the river, he will regard the picture as perfect. But I witnessed the fight from the national side from 8 o'clock in the morning until night closed the contest, and I see but little in the description that can be recognized. The Confederate troops fought well, and deserve commendation enough for their bravery and endurance on the 6th of April without detracting from their antagonists or claiming any undue merit for the day. In an article on the battle of Shiloh which I wrote for the *Century Magazine* I stated the fact. A. M. McCook, who commanded a division of Buell's army, expressed some unwillingness to pursue the enemy on Monday, April 7, because of the condition of the troops. Gen. Badeau also, in his history, makes the same statement on my authority. In justice to Gen. McCook and his command, I must say that they left a point twenty-two miles east of Savannah on the morning of the 6th. From the heavy rains of a few days previous, and the passage of trains and artillery, the roads were necessarily deep in mud, which rendered them slow. The division had not only marched through this mud the day before, but it had been in the rain all night without rest. It was engaged in the battle of the second day, and did as good service as its position allowed. In fact, an opportunity occurred for it to perform a conspicuous act of gallantry, which elicited the highest commendation from division commanders in the Army of the Tennessee. Gen. Sherman, in both his memoirs and report, makes mention of this fact. Gen. McCook himself belonged to a family which

furnished many volunteers to the army. I refer to these circumstances with minuteness because I did get into it in my article in the *Century*, though not to the extent one would suppose from the public press. I am not willing to do any one an injustice, and if convinced that I have done one I am willing to make the fullest confession.

"The campaign of Vicksburg was suggested and developed by circumstances. The elections of 1862 had gone against the prosecution of the war. Volunteer enlistments had nearly ceased and the draft had been suspended. This was a reason, and a general backward movement, which had made its execution impossible. A forward movement to decide victory was necessary. Accordingly, I resolved to get below Vicksburg, unite with Banks against Port Hudson, make New Orleans a base, and with that base and Grand Gulf as a starting point, move our combined forces against Vicksburg. Upon reaching Grand Gulf, after running its batte le and fighting a battle, I received a letter from Banks informing me that he could not afford to hold on to the day, and with only fifteen thousand men. The time was worth more than the re-enforcements. I therefore determined to push into the interior of the enemy's country. With a large river behind us, held above and below by the enemy, rapid movement was essential to success. Jackson was captured the day after a new commander had arrived and when large re-enforcements were daily expected. A rapid movement was made, and the garrison of Vicksburg was met by five battles and easily defeated. The city was then captured.

"On receipt of Mr. Dana's dispatch Mr. Stanton sent for me. Finding that I was out he became nervous and excited, inquiring of every person he met, including guests of the house, whether they knew where I was, and bidding them find me and send me to him at once. About 11 o'clock I returned to the hotel, and on my way, near the house, every person I met I was a messenger from the Secretary, apparently partaking of his impatience to see me. I was sent to the telegraph office, and found him pacing the floor rapidly in a suit of the garb Mr. Jefferson Davis was wearing subsequently when he was captured--a dressing gown, but without the shawl and sunbonnet. He showed the dispatch, saying that the retreat must be prevented. I immediately wrote an order assuming command of the Military Division of the Mississippi and telegraphed to Gen. H. G. Wright, then assigned to Thomas the command of the Army of the Cumberland, and to Thomas that he must hold Chattanooga at all hazards."

Here is a funny story about Gen. Bragg, which Gen. Grant tells in his characteristically simple way:

"I have heard a story in the old army very characteristic of Bragg. On one occasion, when stationed at a post of several companies, commanded by a field officer, he was himself commanding one of the companies, and at the same time acting Post Quartermaster and Commissary. He was a First Lieutenant at the time, but his Captain was detached to other duty. As commander of the company, he made a requisition upon the Quartermaster (himself) for something he wanted. As Quartermaster he declined to fill the requisition, and indorsed on the back of it his reason for so doing. As company commander he responded to this, urging that his requisition called for nothing, but what he was entitled to, and that it was the duty of the Quartermaster to fill it. The Quartermaster still persisted that he had no right to fill the requisition, after Bragg referred the whole matter to the commanding officer. The latter, when he saw the nature of the matter referred, exclaimed: 'My God, Mr. Bragg, you have quarreled with every officer in the army, and now you are quarreling with yourself.' Longstreet was an entirely different man."

METHODIST EPISCOPAL VISITATION.

Plan for the Fall Conferences Adopted by the Board of Bishops at St. Louis.

Conference. Place. Date. Bishop.

Utah Mis. ... Park City, Utah. July 2. Warren.

Montana Mis. ... Dillon, M. T. July 9. Walden.

Colorado Mis. ... Colorado Springs, Colo. July 16. Walden.

Wyoming, Colo. ... Cheyenne, Colo. Aug. 13. Walden.

Arizona Mis. ... Tucson, Ariz. Aug. 20. Andrews.

Utah Mis. ... St. George, Utah. Aug. 23. B. K. Miles.

Mississippi Mis. ... Vicksburg, Miss. Aug. 26. Meek.

Arkansas Mis. ... Little Rock, Ark. Aug. 29. F. W. C. Jones.

Tennessee Mis. ... Memphis, Tenn. Aug. 30. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Aug. 31. F. W. C. Jones.

Georgia Mis. ... Atlanta, Ga. Sept. 1. F. W. C. Jones.

Florida Mis. ... Tallahassee, Fla. Sept. 4. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 5. F. W. C. Jones.

Arkansas Mis. ... Little Rock, Ark. Sept. 6. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Vicksburg, Miss. Sept. 7. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Tuscaloosa, Ala. Sept. 8. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Meridian, Miss. Sept. 9. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 10. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 11. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Tuscaloosa, Ala. Sept. 12. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Meridian, Miss. Sept. 13. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 14. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 15. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 16. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 17. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 18. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 19. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 20. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 21. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 22. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 23. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 24. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 25. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 26. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 27. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 28. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 29. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Sept. 30. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Sept. 31. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Oct. 1. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Oct. 2. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Oct. 3. F. W. C. Jones.

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Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Oct. 32. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Oct. 33. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Oct. 34. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Oct. 35. F. W. C. Jones.

Mississippi Mis. ... Natchez, Miss. Oct. 36. F. W. C. Jones.

Alabama Mis. ... Birmingham, Ala. Oct. 37. F. W. C. Jones.