

THE NEWTON ENTERPRISE.

VOL. XXXVII

NEWTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1915.

NO. 2

THE BATTLE OF SHILOH.

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For twelve years a primitive log church, called Shiloh, built by the Methodists in Hardin County, Tennessee, had enjoyed the privilege of peaceful Sabbaths.

It stood upon a slight rise, two and a half miles back from Pittsburg landing, on the west bank of the Tennessee river, and the road which ran past it led to Corinth, Mississippi. And the name of this church and of this town, one so noted in a biblical and the other in a classical way, were destined to become equally well known in American history.

Suddenly one April morning in 1862 the Sabbath stillness was broken by the roar of artillery, as one army fell upon another as suddenly as a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and coming to the tents smote them till they fell."

The material church soon lost its existence; its seats and pulpit were used in the construction of camps by one army and its flooring made into rude coffins to bury the soldiers of another, but the name of Shiloh endures.

How the battle came about and why the forces met there is an interesting story.

With the fall of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in February 1862 the center of the outer line of defense of the Confederacy was broken.

Kentucky was abandoned, and a new line chosen, that of the Memphis and Charleston railroad which ran almost due east from Memphis to Chattanooga.

The campaigns of the War between the States were largely influenced by the topography of the South and both armies sought control of the rivers and railroads, and the contest for the control of the Mississippi river was of vital importance.

As long as the Confederate army was in possession of both banks and could control that great river, New Orleans could be maintained as an open port and any sympathetic foreign nation could supply the Confederacy with ammunition and clothing.

The Ohio joins the Mississippi at Paducah, Ky., that point gained, boats could go up the Cumberland and Tennessee to the interior of the Confederacy and reaching some point connecting with railroad transportation, be in touch with its vital organization.

So the village of Corinth, situated in northeast Mississippi at the intersection of the Memphis and Charleston railroad with that of the Mobile and Ohio, became a strategic point. The Confederacy had strong works at Island No. 10 and at New Madrid, which if they held, could close the Mississippi river to the Federal fleet.

The Mobile and Ohio railroad connected these points with the Mississippi and the Gulf. From Memphis to Chattanooga was almost a direct line for the Memphis and Charleston railroad and when Chattanooga was reached the old East Tennessee line was a high road to Virginia.

If the Federal forces could sever the Memphis and Charleston railroad and control the Tennessee river their gunboats could protect them from any attack from the West, and both armies saw the importance of Corinth, Mississippi as a base. Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck was now in sole command of the Union forces in the West.

After the fall of Fort Donelson, General Don Carlos Buell, in command of the Department of the Ohio occupied Nashville, the capital of Tennessee, and General Albert Sidney Johnston, in command of the Confederate forces in the West fell back to Murfreesboro.

General U. S. Grant had been temporarily removed from the command of the Army of the Tennessee, but was restored to his former position by General Halleck on March 17th, 1862 and told to "destroy the railroad connections at Corinth." During General Grant's period of inactivity Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee river had been selected for the Federal base, and a

large part of the Army of the Tennessee encamped there before General Grant took command.

About the time the Federal army selected Pittsburg landing as its base, General P. G. T. Beauregard chose Corinth, Mississippi as the Confederate base. This selection for the Federal encampment, which has been as warmly defended as it has been bitterly criticized was made upon the recommendation of General W. T. Sherman, who highly approved of the location and wrote to General Grant: "The ground itself admits of easy defense by a small command, and yet affords admirable camping-ground for 100,000 men."

The space occupied covered about three miles each way and was in the form of a quadrilateral with natural boundaries. In the rear was the wide and deep Tennessee river, Snake creek to the north, emptying into the river below the landing, and Owl creek, a tributary of Snake, enclosing the west. To the south-east Lick creek empties into the river above the landing.

All of the creeks were swollen by spring rains and would prove obstacles to any invasion.

At a Court Martial held in Memphis, Tennessee, August, 1862 General Sherman said: "I mention for future history that our right flank was well guarded by Owl and Snake creeks, and our left by Lick Creek, leaving us simply to guard our front."

In an article written about Shiloh General Grant said: "The water in all the streams was very high at the time and contributed to protect our flanks; the enemy was compelled therefore to attack directly in front."

Now, the enemy did attack precisely in this front, which according to General Sherman was the only place to be guarded, and in such force that "The call to arms blended with the crash of assault and when the whole forest on the rising ground in the front flashed with the gleam of bayonets," then, Gen. Sherman, as he reports "became satisfied for the first time that the enemy designed a determined attack."

The historian, John Fiske, says that Sherman "stoutly maintained that he was not surprised by the Confederate attack at Shiloh, but, as Fiske adds: "The point is one of which General Sherman was unduly sensitive in his later years."

Then why did they leave unguarded the open road which led from their encampment to the village of Corinth where lay, only 20 miles away, the Confederate army under General Albert Sidney Johnston!

At the dedication of a memorial to the 1st Minnesota Battery at Shiloh General Andrews said: "It was not General Grant's purpose to have a battle at Shiloh." But it was the purpose of General Johnston and there the battle was fought.

On April 5th, 1862, there were at Pittsburg landing, present for duty 39,830 soldiers of the Army of the Tennessee, five divisions in all, and only 5 miles away was the 3rd division, under General Lew Wallace, with 7,564 officers and men. General Halleck has ordered General Buell to march from Nashville with his 37,000 men and join General Grant, with the purpose of attacking Corinth, and his first division under General Nelson reached the east bank of the Tennessee river the afternoon of Saturday, April the 5th, and General Buell came up that night. When General Grant took command at Pittsburg landing, he made his headquarters at Savannah, a small town on the east side of the river, 8 miles lower down.

He visited the camp each day and returned each night to his lodgings in the Cherry mansion on the right bank of the river. He knew that the Confederate army was at Corinth in force, and in an official dispatch he estimated their numbers "at about 80,000," but he anticipated no attack from that quarter.

The Confederate forces in reality numbered about 43,968 men, and while General Grant was setting his camp in order and going down the river to spend the nights in comfortable

quarters, leaving his army in an acephalous condition, they were preparing to strike the blow which he anticipated would fall upon them.

After the fall of Fort Donelson, the Southerners had murmured against their great leader, General Albert Sidney Johnston, to such an extent that President Davis wrote: "If Sidney Johnston is not a general, I have none to give you."

A committee was appointed to investigate the recent disasters of the Confederacy and General Johnston was retained in command of the Confederate Army of the West and General P. G. T. Beauregard was made second in command.

To reach General Beauregard at Corinth General Johnston marched south from Murfreesboro over terrible roads and swollen streams, crossing the Tennessee river at Decatur, Alabama near the middle of March, and reached the Confederate base about the same time General Grant took command at Pittsburg, landing General Beauregard had begun to concentrate his forces, General Bragg joining him with 10,000 men from Mobile and Pensacola; General Leonidas Polk reaching there after the abandonment of Columbus, Kentucky, and General Earl Van Dorn was ordered to bring up his troops from Arkansas. On March 29th General Johnston issued a general order consolidating the armies of Kentucky and Mississippi and some independent commands, into the "Army of the Mississippi," of which he was in command, General Beauregard second; Major General Braxton Bragg chief of Staff.

Subsequently he organized the army into 4 corps: 1st Corps—Maj. Gen. Leonidas Polk. 2nd Corps—Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg. 3rd Corps—Maj. Gen. W. J. Hardee and a Reserve Corps, commanded by Brig.-Gen. J. C. Breckanridge.

Johnston had been much depressed by the censure of the "arm chair" critics, and as late as March 18th, in a moment of chivalric generosity offered the chief command to General Beauregard who had recently won high honors in Virginia. General Beauregard declined the offer, though he apparently considered it as an evidence of self-distrust on the part of General Johnston, but no one who studies that great character can construe it other than "an act of unselfishness, not wishing to deprive another of glory, for Johnston was as brave as he was gentle.

General Beauregard was charged with special preparation of the troops for the proposed campaign, which to General Johnston's mind was plain and simple; to march in force and strike and crush General Grant at Pittsburg landing before General Buell could reach him.

General Van Dorn was delayed in coming over from Arkansas, and learning through scouts of Col. N. B. Forrest that Buell was rapidly moving toward the Tennessee river, Johnston decided to attack at once, and on April 3rd issued orders for the forward movement, the army to move by several roads from Corinth and concentrate at Mickey's, 8 miles from Pittsburg landing. In the address to be read at the head of each regiment, General Johnston said: "You are expected to show yourselves worthy of your lineage, worthy of the women of the South, whose noble devotion, in this war has never been exceeded in any time."

By the delay of the 2nd and 3rd corps the army was not ready to march till the afternoon of the 3rd, when it should have moved at noon, and the plan was to attack at dawn on Saturday morning.

But the roads were narrow and bad, the spring rains had begun and moving artillery was slow work. In line of march Hardee's corps came first and was given first line in battle, as his troops were more hardened to marching.

In the rear 500 yards came Bragg's Corps, and 800 yards in rear of him came Polk.

The reserve under General Breckanridge followed. Owing to a heavy rain Friday and a storm that night, and consequent difficulty of bringing up the artillery, a delay of almost 24 hours ensued, so the attack planned for Saturday morning was impossible. But in the rain and over rough roads the army pushed forward and by the middle of Saturday afternoon lay in full battle array within two miles of Shiloh church.

Now what was transpiring within the Union lines the first few days of April? General Grant had under his command six divisions in order: 1st—Maj.-Gen. John McClernand. 2nd—Brig.-Gen. W. H. L. Wallace. 3rd—Maj.-Gen. Lew Wallace. 4th—Brig.-Gen. S. A. Hurlbut. 5th—Brig.-Gen. W. T. Sherman. 6th—Brig.-Gen. B. M. Prentiss.

There had been some difference between Generals Sherman and McClernand, so to General Sherman General Grant gave the disposal of troops at Pittsburg landing, except those of the division of McClernand. The camps of Sherman and Prentiss formed the front line of Union forces about two and a half miles from Pittsburg landing, and extended in a semi-circle from Owl creek on the right to Lick creek on the left. General Sherman's headquarters were at Shiloh church and he was nearest that point which he said was the only one to be guarded—the open front toward the enemy.

And from Pittsburg landing, past Shiloh church, ran the country road to Corinth.

Meanwhile the Union army lay in the field without entrenchment, no out posts, no defensive works, no artificial protection of any character and no cavalry pickets to give information of the movements of a hostile army 20 miles away, with no river or mountain between them.

On the 3rd and 4th of April there had been some skirmishing between the cavalry of both armies, and on Saturday, the 5th, Generals Prentiss and Sherman each sent out reconnoitering parties to the front, who reported "evidences of cavalry" but failed to find any special reason for alarm, and that very day General Sherman wrote to General Grant: "I do not apprehend anything like an attack on our position."

But some of these "evidences of cavalry" belonged to Col. N. B. Forrest, who was detached to picket along Lick creek, and on Friday night slept within three miles of where it emptied into the Tennessee river and lay and listened to the camp music in the Federal lines.

On Saturday morning General Sherman gave an order to cut a road from Owl creek, in front of Shiloh church to an old cotton field three-quarters of a mile east of the camp. A bridge was thrown across Owl creek and a road made of sufficient width for the march of the Union army toward Corinth.

At 2 o'clock that afternoon when skirmishing with the cavalry began, Union officers watched with a glass, a Confederate officer upon his gray horse across the old cotton-field, and learned afterward that it was Nathan Bedford Forrest, and when the attack was made the next day a Confederate gun was unlimbered in the road out the day before by the Federal fatigue party. The day's work being finished, so to speak, Saturday afternoon, General Grant went out to the rear, down the Tennessee river to spend the night, and confer with General Nelson, advance guard of Buell's division, who had just reached Savannah.

Then it was, he said to General Nelson: "There will be no fight at Pittsburg landing; we will have to go to Corinth where the rebels are fortified."

Had he known it, "Birmingham" would have come to him, and while he spoke the rebels lay out side the unguarded front. We have testimony of a young

artilleryman of Hardee's that he lay all that spring afternoon, scarcely more than a mile away from Shiloh church and looked longingly at the white dogwood blossoms and thought of the creeks near by, for when the dogwood blooms, it is time to go fishing.

He too, like Forrest, heard the drums beating in the Federal camp.

For while the Confederate advance had not been made as rapidly as it should have been on account of the rains and vexatious delays in the 2nd and 3rd corps, still they had come up in order and the army lay Saturday afternoon two miles from the Federal line, where a council of war was held, which developed dissenting views, General Beauregard had been the first to concur with General Johnston in the plan of attack, but now was in favor of giving it up and retreating to Corinth.

The march had been made with so much difficulty; there had been a careless management of rations by men not yet thoroughly war-seasoned; fires had been kindled along the way and fresh soldiers had recklessly discharged their guns to see if they could be used after the excessive rains, so, urged General Beauregard, it almost was impossible now for the Federal army to be unaware of the presence of so large a force.

As to the scarcity of rations General Johnston said: "Let the men get them from the Union Army," and after listening to all objections, he said: "Gentlemen, we shall attack at daylight tomorrow."

After the rains the sun set clear on Saturday evening, and the air was soft and full of fragrance of the wild flowers and budding trees.

All that night an army of nearly forty thousand men lay in battle line two miles in front of an army it would attack at dawn and its presence was not detected—this is not fiction, but it is stranger than fact.

At a quarter past five o'clock the next morning the first shot was fired which disturbed the calm of that Sabbath day. The advancing army encountered a hostile army, with more than one hundred guns and over twenty batteries—not in battle line, but in camp, and General Bragg wrote: "Many were surprised and captured in their tents, and others though on the outside in costumes better fitted to the bed chamber than to the battlefield," and, adds, his adjutant-general, "the arms and accoutrements spread around in the orderless fashion of holiday soldiers."

The opening attack was made upon Gen. Benjamin Prentiss, who, being a brave man rallied his division and threw it forward only to be struck by the Confederates in force. They came in three parallel lines, Hardee in front parallel with 10,000 men; scarcely half a mile behind him Bragg with 10,000, and next in line Polk with 10,000 and Breckinridge's 6,000 reserves to the right.

At seven o'clock the artillery opened fire, and the battle began which raged for thirteen hours. The marvel is that men taken so unawares fought as well as the brave ones among them did, without an organized head and with no concerted plan of battle.

Gen. Grant was at Savannah taking his breakfast when he heard the sound of firing at Pittsburg landing. Taking boat he started at once and reached the front possibly by nine o'clock.

By this time Prentiss, who had resisted valiantly, had been pushed back half a mile; his division lay in the center and half a mile away from three brigades of Sherman on the right, while to the left of him lay Gen. Stuart with another brigade of Sherman's which rested upon Lick Creek.

The ground fought over was partly primitive forest, alternating with a few cleared fields, crossed by numerous ravines, whose marshy margins made it difficult to bring the artillery across; the wooded heights with undergrowth forming screens and rallying points for the retreating army.

The battle was a series of separate fights, each division commander taking care of his troops as best he could, but being constantly outflanked the general trend was to the rear; the troops rallied whenever possible, but, rallying and ebbing and flowing, were gradually forced back toward the river.

By noon Sherman's line had so disintegrated that fragments of his division mingled with McClernand's which lay to his left and rear and about two o'clock in the afternoon Sherman and McClernand retired their mutual division across Tillman Creek and held a position which was somewhat protected by Hurlbut and William Wallace.

About ten o'clock, Prentiss, with Gen. William Wallace and two brigades of Hurlbut's division took up a strong position which they held for five or six hours against the assaults of five Confederate brigades who made nine unsuccessful charges against the Union line between 10:30 a. m. and 5 p. m.

This was at the point, called by the Confederates "The Hornets' Nest." To reach this rallying point so strongly defended by batteries an open field had to be crossed, swept by blinding sheets of fire. On the eastern margin of this field, while personally directing the movements of his reserve, Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston was struck by a minie ball, which severed an artery in the right leg, caused his death in about ten minutes.

He was tenderly carried to a ravine nearby, and had his surgeon been with him, his life might readily have been saved by the simplest contrivance, but the end came so suddenly, members of his staff who stood around him seemed dazed to see "how quick this bright thing came to confusion" and his brother-in-law Gen. William Preston sobbed aloud in his grief.

Dr. Yandell, his surgeon, had been sent by Gen. Johnston's orders, to care for the wounded Federal prisoners as well as his own men.

Gen. Johnston was carried back to Corinth that afternoon and was buried in New Orleans with high honors. Gen. Beauregard, then in the rear at Shiloh Church took command of the Confederate army.

Gen. Stuart who was in an isolated position on the Federal left maintained his place till 3 p. m., and after losing more than half his men managed to get his remnant to the landing, and after Stuart fell back Hurlbut's position was lost. This left Prentiss exposed and soon he and Wallace were attacked in front and on both flanks.

About five o'clock Wallace fell mortally wounded and Prentiss surrendered with 2,200 men and the centre of the Federal army ceased resistance, but every student of history will agree that Gen. Benjamin Prentiss, who fought from five in the morning till five in the afternoon, contributed much to the salvation of the Union army.

After the surrender of Prentiss a way was opened to attack the last line of the Union army which was near the landing. Col. Webster, chief of artillery on Gen. Grant's staff, had planted some siege guns on the bluff above the landing, and these were reinforced by those coming back from the front till there were more than 20 guns and in front of this position a large ravine filled with water, making a charge upon it almost hopeless, but on came the almost soldiers and just as three Confederate brigades made an attack upon this battery the two Federal gunboats, the Tyler and Lexington, joined in sending an enfilading fire through the ranks of the advancing soldiers.

By this time the advance brigade of Nelson's division had crossed the river and begun to support the Federal artillery. The Confederates were driven back and before they could form for another attack Gen. Beauregard gave the order to cease firing and retire from the range of the gun boat fire.

It was well for the Union army that Nelson came up when he

did, though those to whom he brought aid seem scarcely to realize how timely his assistance was.

He had not been able to find his way on the east side of the river and Gen. Lew Wallace had lost his on the west side, so Gen. Grant after he got upon the field sent guides to the one and couriers to the other and also a letter to Gen. Buell, about noon urging him to bring up his fresh troops, "as it may possibly save the day to us."

And adds: "The rebel forces are estimated at over 100,000 men." Gen. Buell had not waited for the letter, but came up the river upon the sound of firing of the guns, and unfortunately, coming in through "the rear," as Gen. Grant expressed it, was unfavorably impressed with the "stragglers" whom he encountered in the river (the mouth of Snake Creek being full of them swimming across) and on the bank at the landing, and who resisted all efforts of Buell to rally them, and whose numbers he estimated at from five to fifteen thousand.

From early in the morning till almost nightfall the victorious Confederate army pressed across the bloody field and when the order came to withdraw, their shots had fallen into the Tennessee River.

By Southern writers Beauregard has been much criticized for the order to withdraw, which was bitterly lamented by Bragg and other officers at the front who felt that had the attack been pressed, with the hour of daylight remaining, the battery would have been silenced. But the battle had raged for thirteen hours, the troops were worn and weary, the losses had been great and Gen. Beauregard, who was in the rear, where he could not see how small an effort was needed to press the victory, feared to further expose his troops.

The Confederate soldiers retired to the deserted Federal camp and slept that night in their tents—Gen. Beauregard occupying Gen. Sherman's headquarters at Shiloh Church.

The sun went down in a red haze, and a violent rain storm broke later over the battlefield where lay "the weary to sleep and the wounded to die."

That night Col. N. B. Forrest, with his cavalry scouts, clad in captured Federal overcoats, crept down to the river bank and saw and heard Gen. Buell bringing his reinforcements across, and realized that morning would be too late to attack. Hastening back to his command officer he told what he had seen and was ordered to report to Gen. Beauregard. In the night and confusion he failed to find his superior.

When Monday morning dawned, Gen. Lew Wallace found his way and brought up his 5000 men and Gen. Buell occupied the bluff above the river with more than 20,000 fresh troops.

Now Gen. Grant had become the aggressor and attacked at daybreak. But 20,000 exhausted Confederate soldiers could not hold the dearly bought Shiloh field against the remnant of Grant's army reinforced by more than 30,000 fresh troops.

The shattered forces resisted with valor till afternoon when Beauregard began the retreat to Corinth and the Federal forces did not pursue.

The losses were frightful, the Federal forces having a total of 13,047 and the Confederates 10,699.

Gen. Grant said he saw an open field in possession of the Union forces on the second day over which the Confederates had charged repeatedly the day before, so covered with dead it would have been possible to walk across it in any direction, stepping on dead bodies without a foot touching the ground, and all the small undergrowth had been cut down by bullets.

Varus fell with his Roman legions in the dark Teutoburg Forest and there was no friendly hand to bury them. Six years afterwards their comrades sought the spot and finding their bones interred them with solemn military honors.

For more than half a century

the Confederate dead have lain in the unmarked trenches at Shiloh, and though we feel that immortal shrouds have been woven for them, we long for a visible token to commemorate their valor, and rejoice that the day will soon come when "Shiloh Monument will mark the spot where our heroes fell.

CASE AFTER CASE

Plenty More Like This In Newton.

Scores of Newton people can tell you about Doan's Kidney Pills. Many a happy citizen makes a statement of his experience. Here is a case of it. What better proof of merit can be had than such endorsement.

J. E. Thornburg, Gaither Ave., Newton, says: "I had been bad off with kidney and bladder trouble. I had a dull, heavy feeling in my back which worried me a lot. I suffered from a steady pain in my loins. I suspected my kidneys and began taking Doan's Kidney Pills. One box removed the pains and other symptoms of kidney trouble."

Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Thornburg had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

We observe that the Republican newspapers and politicians are making no efforts in the direction of educating the farmers to believe that the high price of wheat is due to the Democrats, but they are working overtime in an effort to induce the consumers to believe that any addition to the price of bread is a crime directly traceable to a Democratic administration at Washington.—Greensboro Patriot.

Harsh physics reset, weaken the bowels, will lead to chronic constipation. Doan's Regulat's operate easily, 25c a box at all stores.

Michigan Democrats nominated by acclamation a ticket for the spring election and endorsed, in most emphatic terms, the administration of President Wilson at their State convention at Lansing this week. The platform adopted commended the stand of president Wilson on the ship purchase bill and denounced the Republican opposition to the measure as being un-American and against American prosperity.

IT SHOULD BE IN EVERY HOME.

Coble's Croup and Pneumonia Remedy is the new liquid external remedy for Croup, Coughs, Pneumonia, Sore Throat and all Cold Troubles, it being liquid it is much easier to use than a Salve and with much quicker results. You just rub it on and inhale the vapors while it penetrates. Can be used in an atomizer for Catarrh. It relieves instantly. If it does not get your money back, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 sizes. Sold on a guarantee by all drug stores.

Some time ago a negro man sued a white man in Granville county for alienating the affections of his wife and the jury gave the negro a verdict of \$8,000. Don't get excited. A similar case is pending in this county right now, but it is understood to be in a fair way to be compromised.—Greensboro Record.

How Mr. Davis Got Rid of a Bad Cough.

"Some time ago I had a very bad cough," writes Lewis T. Davis, Blackwater, Del. "My brother McCabe Davis gave me a small bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. After taking this I bought half a dozen bottles of it but only used one of them as the cough left me and I have not been troubled since." Obtainable everywhere.

There seems to be agreement in Europe that whatever little civilization there was in "civilized" warfare has gone by the board. There is, however, a remnant of satisfaction in the fact that each side blames the other therefor.—Greensboro News.

TRY Coble's Croup and Pneumonia Remedy. It's the new Liquid Treatment for all Cold Troubles. Sold on a guarantee everywhere. If it does not do what we claim you get your money back.