

of the cities of Georgetown and Washington thereafter "set apart from the whole fund received by them from all sources applicable under existing provisions of law to purposes of public education, such a proportionate part thereof for the education of colored children as the number of colored children in the respective cities, between the ages of six and seventeen years, bears to the whole number of children thereof." Under my construction of this section of this last act of Congress, the trustees of colored schools of this city are entitled to receive from this corporation for the purpose of educating colored children an amount more than twice as much as the whole aggregate of taxes paid by all the colored persons of this city; while under the construction put upon it by the trustees of colored schools, which they claim, they would be entitled to receive an amount more than four times greater than the whole aggregate of taxes paid by colored persons. Whilst the corporate authorities of Washington have been ever ready and willing to do all that can, with propriety and justice, be required of them to meliorate and amend the condition of the colored population of this city, and provide for their intellectual culture and improvement, it is reluctant to do this at so inordinate a cost to the white taxpayer.

Whilst Congress has been liberal, and granted large sums and tracts of the public lands to several of the States and Territories, for the purposes of public education, it has not as yet given to this city, from which it obtained so much, a dollar, and has given away, without consideration, valuable franchises—the inherent right and property of this city—which would have yielded sufficient to support and maintain all its public schools.

In this connexion I would ask, that whenever, hereafter, any grant by way of a franchise is made of any privilege in this city, it be conditioned on obtaining the consent of the city authorities thereto.

In this way, would not only the city be protected, but a revenue legitimately derived which would materially assist in fostering our public schools.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The city has, at considerable expense, established a paid fire department with the use of steam fire-engines, as well as erected a fire-alarm telegraph; your predecessor, at my request, granting the corporation for this department the use of certain buildings, the property of the general government, erected as engine-houses.

These buildings are inadequate for the purposes of the fire department as at present organized, and this corporation would, if the possession was guaranteed for a length of time sufficient to warrant the expense, tear them down and erect on their sites structures better adapted to the purposes. I would therefore ask of Congress to grant to this city, so long as they may be used for the purposes of a fire department, the lots of ground on which stand the Columbia, Union and Franklin engine-houses.

I must, in conclusion, apologize for the length of this communication, necessary, however, on account of the importance to this community of obtaining the early action of Congress, in some way or another, on every matter and thing therein mentioned.

I am, very respectfully,

RICHARD WALLACH, *Mayor.*

Hon. JAMES HARLAN,

*Secretary of the Interior.*

REPORT  
OF  
THE SECRETARY OF WAR,  
1865.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington City, November 22, 1865.*

Mr. PRESIDENT: The military appropriations by the last Congress amounted to the sum of five hundred and sixteen millions two hundred and forty thousand one hundred and thirty-one dollars and seventy cents, (\$516,240,131 70.) The military estimates for the next fiscal year, after careful revision, amount to thirty-three millions eight hundred and fourteen thousand four hundred and sixty-one dollars and eighty-three cents, (\$33,814,461 83.) The national military force on the first of May, 1865, numbered one million five hundred and sixteen men. It is proposed to reduce the military establishment to fifty thousand troops, and over eight hundred thousand have already been mustered out of service. What has occasioned this reduction of force and expenditure in the War Department it is the purpose of this report to explain.

At the commencement of the last session of Congress much had been accomplished towards suppressing the rebellion and restoring federal authority over the insurgent States. But the rebels still held Richmond as the capital of their so-called confederate government, and the semblance of State government existed in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas, while a strong military force occupied a considerable portion of Arkansas and Louisiana. Their principal army, under its favorite commander, General Lee, defended with undaunted front impregnable positions around Petersburg and Richmond. Another army, under General Hood, was moving north, with purpose to invade Tennessee and Kentucky. West of the Mississippi, a large force, under General Kirby Smith, threatened Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri. The chief seaports of the rebel States—Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, and Mobile—were strongly garrisoned and fortified, and our blockading squadrons were unable to prevent trade and supplies reaching the enemy. Pirate steamers, built in foreign ports for rebel cruisers, armed, manned, equipped and supplied by foreign capital, roamed the high seas, burning our ships and destroying our commerce. Marauders, hired by the rebel government and harbored on our northern frontier, were setting on foot piratical expeditions against our commerce on the lakes, planning to burn and plunder



our towns and cities, and were plotting murder against the President and Vice-President of the United States, in hopes of overthrowing our government by anarchy. Faith in their final success and hope of open recognition by foreign governments still animated leading traitors.

But now the approaching session of Congress will find the authority of the federal government effectually and peacefully exercised over the whole territory of the United States. All the armies heretofore arrayed against the national government have laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war. Every hostile banner has been hauled down; the so-called confederate government is overthrown; its president is a prisoner in close custody, awaiting trial; while its vice-president and three of its chief executive officers have been recently enlarged from prison by your clemency. All the ordinances, laws, and organizations created or existing under or by virtue of the so-called confederate government have been swept away, and, by your sanction, the people of the insurgent States have organized, or are busily engaged in organizing, State governments, in subordination to the federal authority. In harmony with this new condition of affairs, the military force of the federal government has been reduced, large armies disbanded, and nearly a million of brave men, lately soldiers in arms, paid and honorably mustered out of service, have gone from camps, garrisons and posts to their homes, and most of them are engaged already in the peaceful pursuits of civil life.

Among the causes which, under Divine Providence, have brought about these wonderful results, successful military operations stand first in order.

A clear comprehension of these operations requires a brief glance at the military position just before the spring campaigns of 1864.

Notwithstanding the successful campaigns on the Mississippi, in 1863, by the reduction of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, severed in twain the rebel territory and restored to us the navigation and commerce of the Mississippi, while the victory at Gettysburg drove back the rebel invaders from the northern States, yet the military strength of the rebels continued formidable. The army of Virginia, under General Lee, recovered from its disaster at Gettysburg, occupied its former lines in Virginia, protecting the rebel capital, and holding inactive and in check the army of the Potomac. Another large army, under General Bragg, re-enforced by Longstreet's corps, threatened the reconquest of Tennessee. After the disastrous battle of Chickamauga, our army of the Cumberland, shut up and surrounded at Chattanooga, unable to move by reason of the inclemency of the weather and impassable roads, was in extreme jeopardy.

At this discouraging juncture a change of military organization was made. The departments of the Ohio, the Tennessee, and the Cumberland were united in one military division, called the division of the Mississippi, under Major General Grant. Command of the army of the Cumberland was given to Major General George H. Thomas, relieving General Rosecrans. A winter campaign was immediately directed against Bragg's army. The battles of Wauhatchie, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and Chattanooga opened our communications, and routed Bragg's army with heavy loss. The movement of Longstreet's

corps against Knoxville, to recover East Tennessee, also proved a disastrous failure to the rebels, who were driven off and forced back to the mountains.

In the month of February, 1864, General Sherman's movement, with a large force, from Vicksburg, into the interior of the State of Alabama, as far as Meridian, inflicted heavy loss upon the enemy by the destruction of railroads and supplies, the capture of prisoners, and the escape of negroes and refugees. This operation demonstrated the capacity of an invading army to penetrate the rebel States and support itself on the country, and was the forerunner of the great movements in Georgia.

The arrangements for the spring campaigns of 1864 were made, on the part of the government, to put forth its strength. In all the bureaus of the War Department supplies were provided on a scale of great magnitude, to meet any exigency that could be foreseen. The estimates were based upon an army organization of one million of men. The States were called upon to strengthen the armies by volunteers; new drafts were ordered and put in execution throughout all the loyal States; vast supplies of arms, ammunition, clothing, subsistence, medical stores, and forage were provided and distributed in depots, to meet the wants of the troops wherever they might operate; horses, mules, wagons, railroad iron, locomotives and cars, bridge timber, telegraph cable and wire, and every material for transportation and communication of great armies under all conditions, were supplied. Congress, with unstinting hand, voted large appropriations for recruiting, paying, and supplying the troops. The office of lieutenant general, to command all the armies, was created by law. Ulysses S. Grant was appointed to that rank by the President, and assumed command, as Lieutenant General, on the 17th day of March, 1864, from which time the operations of all the armies were under his direction.

The national forces engaged in the spring campaign of 1864 were organized as armies or distributed in military departments as follows:

The army of the Potomac, commanded by Major General Meade, whose headquarters were on the north side of the Rapidan. This army was confronted by the rebel army of Northern Virginia, stationed on the south side of the Rapidan, under General Robert E. Lee.

The 9th corps, under Major General Burnside, was, at the opening of the campaign, a distinct organization, but on the 24th day of May, 1864, it was incorporated into the army of the Potomac.

The army of the James was commanded by Major General Butler, whose headquarters were at Fortress Monroe.

The headquarters of the army of the Shenandoah, commanded by Major General Sigel, were at Winchester.

Three armies were united under Major General William T. Sherman, viz: the army of the Cumberland, Major General Thomas commanding; the army of the Tennessee, Major General McPherson commanding; and the army of the Ohio, Major General Schofield commanding. General Sherman's headquarters were at Chattanooga. The effective strength of these three armies was nearly one hundred thousand men, and two hundred and fifty-four guns, to wit



Army of the Cumberland, Major General Thomas commanding:

Infantry .....	54,568
Artillery .....	2,377
Cavalry .....	3,828
Total .....	60,773
Number of guns .....	130

Army of the Tennessee, Major General McPherson commanding:

Infantry .....	22,437
Artillery .....	1,104
Cavalry .....	624
Total .....	24,165
Number of guns .....	96

Army of the Ohio, Major General Schofield commanding:

Infantry .....	11,183
Artillery .....	679
Cavalry .....	1,697
Total .....	13,559
Number of guns .....	28

Grand aggregate number of troops .....	98,497
Grand aggregate number of guns .....	254

About these figures were maintained during the campaign; the number of men joining from furlough and hospitals compensating for the loss in battle and from sickness.

In the department of Kentucky there was likewise a large active force, under command of Major General Burbridge, and also in East Tennessee, under Major General Stoneman. Adequate forces were reserved in the department of Washington, under Major General Augur, to protect the capital and the immense depots of military supplies at Washington and Alexandria, and also in the Middle military department under Major General Lewis Wallace, to cover Baltimore and the important lines of supply and communication in that department. Besides the armies operating actively in the field, troops were assigned to garrison exposed and important strategic points, to guard hospitals, recruiting stations, prison camps, supply depots, railroad lines, and to defend border States and the northern frontier from rebel raids.

In the department of the south a force was operating against Charleston and in Florida, under General Gillmore.

West of the Mississippi the forces were under the respective departmental commanders. In the department of the Gulf, embracing Louisiana and Texas, Major General Banks had his headquarters at New Orleans. The department of Arkansas was in command of Major General Steele. Major General Curtis commanded the troops assigned for the department of Kansas and the Indian Territory. The troops in the department of the Missouri were under command of Major General Rosecrans. The defence of the northwestern States and Territories against Indians, expeditions to check incursions and reduce hostile tribes, and to protect the overland route to California, employed a considerable force under Major General Pope, in the northwest department, General Carleton in New-Mexico and Arizona, and General Connor in the Indian Territory. The States and Territories on the Pacific coast required but a small force, under Major General McDowell.

The headquarters of the Lieutenant General commanding all the armies were with the army of the Potomac in the field.

Official reports show that on the first of May, 1864, the aggregate national military force of all arms, officers and men, was nine hundred and seventy thousand seven hundred and ten, to wit:

Available force present for duty .....	662,345
On detached service in the different military departments .....	109,348
In field hospitals, or unfit for duty .....	41,266
In general hospitals or on sick leave at home .....	75,978
Absent on furlough, or as prisoners of war .....	66,290
Absent without leave .....	15,483
Grand aggregate .....	970,710

The aggregate available force present for duty May 1, 1864, was distributed in the different commands as follows:

Department of Washington .....	42,124
Army of the Potomac .....	120,384
Department of Virginia and North Carolina .....	59,130
Department of the South .....	18,169
Department of the Gulf .....	61,865
Department of Arkansas .....	23,666
Department of the Tennessee .....	74,170
Department of the Missouri .....	15,775
Department of the Northwest .....	5,296
Department of Kansas .....	4,798
Headquarters military division of the Mississippi .....	476
Department of the Cumberland .....	119,948
Department of the Ohio .....	35,416
Northern department .....	9,546
Department of West Virginia .....	30,782



Department of the East.....	2,828
Department of the Susquehanna.....	2,970
Middle department.....	5,627
Ninth army corps.....	20,780
Department of New Mexico.....	3,454
Department of the Pacific.....	5,141
	<hr/>
	662,345
	<hr/>

Active military operations west of the Mississippi commenced in the month of March, 1864. The principal rebel forces beyond the Mississippi were concentrated under General Kirby Smith, at Shreveport, on the Red river. Against this force an expedition was undertaken by Major General Banks, with a large army from New Orleans, to be co-operated with by troops from the department of Arkansas, under General Steele, and from the division of the Mississippi, under General A. J. Smith, and also a large naval force under Admiral Porter. General Banks with his forces reached Alexandria about the 20th of March. Advancing thence towards Shreveport, a series of disasters commenced, that ended in the failure of the expedition with heavy loss of men and material. The cause of this failure is still a subject of discussion, not material to the present report. Although by this mishap the enemy was enabled to occupy the attention of a large force designed and that might have been employed in other fields, he was himself kept in check and hindered from taking part in the great campaigns east of the Mississippi.

The campaigns in Virginia opened on the 4th day of May. By simultaneous movements the army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan, and City Point, on the south side of the James, was seized and occupied by General Butler. The crossing of the Rapidan was effected without resistance from the enemy. The movement against City Point took him by surprise. The army of the Potomac was directed at Lee's army, while the city of Richmond was the objective point of the army of the James.

Minute details of the subsequent campaigns are given in the accompanying reports of the Lieutenant General, and other distinguished commanders, so that nothing more than a cursory view of the main results is here required.

The antagonist armies of Meade and Lee met in conflict near Mine Run on the 5th day of May. Forty-three days of desperate fighting or marching by day and night forced back the rebel army from the Rapidan to their intrenchments around Richmond, and carried the army of the Potomac to the south side of the James river. The strength of the enemy's force when the campaign opened, or the extent of his loss, is not known to this department. Any inequality of numbers between Lee's army and the army of the Potomac was fully compensated by the advantage of position. Resolute purpose and desperate valor were exhibited on both sides. In the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Jericho Ford, Hawe's Shop, and Cold Harbor, many brave soldiers and gallant officers perished. Among them were Brigadier General

Wadsworth, Brigadier General Hays, and Major General Sedgwick. Lieutenant General Grant in his report observes:

"The battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor, bloody and terrible as they were on our side, were even more damaging to the enemy, and so crippled him as to make him wary ever after of taking the offensive. His losses in men were probably not so great, owing to the fact that we were, save in the Wilderness, almost invariably the attacking party, and when he did attack, it was in the open field."

Although expectations of destroying Lee's army, and the speedy capture of Richmond and Petersburg, were disappointed, and the enemy had found refuge behind impregnable fortifications, the campaign was still prosecuted with determined purpose towards the same object. While the rebel army was sheltered in his intrenchments the national forces were busy at work outside strengthening and advancing their position, breaking the communications of the enemy, cutting off and destroying his supplies, narrowing his limits, harassing him by raids, and occupying his attention to prevent detachments or re-enforcements being sent to operate elsewhere.

Active operations were also going on in the valley of the Shenandoah. On the first of May an expedition, under Generals Crook and Averill, was sent out by General Sigel, which reached Wytheville and accomplished the destruction of much rebel property. General Sigel advanced, on the 8th day of May, with his force, from Winchester to New Market, where, met by the enemy under General Breckinridge, he was defeated and fell back to Cedar creek. General Hunter was then placed in command of the department. He marched with a strong force towards Staunton, and in a brilliant engagement at Piedmont defeated the enemy with severe loss. Advancing to Staunton, he was joined there by Crook and Averill, and moved against Lynchburg. Re-enforcements from the enemy having arrived before him, General Hunter retired by way of the Kanawha. Meanwhile, in order to repair the losses of the army of the Potomac, the chief part of the force designed to guard the middle department and the department of Washington was called forward to the front. Taking advantage of this state of affairs, in the absence of General Hunter's command, the enemy made a large detachment from their army at Richmond, which, under General Early, moved down the Shenandoah valley, threatening Baltimore and Washington. Their advance was checked at Monocacy, where a severe engagement was fought by our troops under General Wallace, re-enforced by a part of the 6th corps under General Ricketts. After this battle the enemy continued to advance until they reached the intrenchments around Washington. Here they were met by troops from the army of the Potomac, consisting of the 6th corps, under General Wright, a part of the 8th corps, under General Gillmore, and a part of the 19th corps, just arrived from New Orleans, under General Emory. By these troops the enemy were driven back from Washington, and retreated hastily to Virginia, pursued by our forces under General Wright.

On the 7th day of August, 1864, General Sheridan was placed in command of the military division comprising the department of Washington, the depart-



ment of West Virginia, the department of the Susquehanna, and the middle department. In two great battles, at the crossing of the Opequan on the 19th of September, and at Fisher's Hill on the 22d of September, the rebel army under Early was routed and driven from the valley with immense loss of prisoners, artillery, and stores. A desperate effort was made by the enemy to recover their position. Early was strongly re-enforced, and on the morning of the 19th of October, in the absence of General Sheridan, his lines were surprised, his position turned, and his forces driven back in confusion. At the moment when a great disaster was impending, Sheridan appeared upon the field, the battle was restored, and a brilliant victory achieved. The routed forces of the enemy were pursued to Mount Jackson, where he arrived without an organized regiment of his army. All his artillery and thousands of prisoners fell into Sheridan's hands. These successes closed military operations in the Shenandoah valley, and a rebel force appeared there no more during the war.

Major General William T. Sherman began the brilliant series of his campaigns early in May. The first objective point was Atlanta. To reach that city his armies must pass from the northern limit to the centre of the great State of Georgia, forcing their way through mountain defiles and across great rivers, overcoming or turning formidable intrenched positions defended by a strong, well-appointed veteran army, commanded by an alert, cautious, and skilful general. The campaign opened on the 6th day of May, and on the 2d day of September the national forces entered Atlanta. This achievement is thus described in General Sherman's Field Order No. 68:

"On the first of May our armies were lying in garrison seemingly quiet from Knoxville to Huntsville, and our enemy lay behind his rocky-faced barrier at Dalton, proud, defiant, and exulting. He had had time since Christmas to recover from his discomfiture on the Mission Ridge, with his ranks filled, and a new commander-in-chief, and second to none in the confederacy in reputation for skill, sagacity and extreme popularity. All at once our armies assumed life and action and appeared before Dalton. Threatening Rocky Face we threw ourselves upon Resaca, and the rebel army only escaped by the rapidity of its retreat, aided by the numerous roads with which he was familiar, and which were strange to us. Again he took post in Allatoona, but we gave him no rest, and, by our circuit towards Dallas and subsequent movement to Acworth, we gained the Allatoona Pass. Then followed the eventful battles about Kenesaw, and the escape of the enemy across the Chattahoochee river."

"The crossing of the Chattahoochee and breaking of the Augusta road was most handsomely executed by us, and will be studied as an example in the art of war. At this stage of our game our enemies became dissatisfied with their old and skilful commander, and selected one more bold and rash. New tactics were adopted. Hood first boldly and rapidly, on the 20th of July, fell on our right at Peach Tree creek, and lost. Again, on the 22d, he struck our extreme left, and was severely punished; and finally, again on the 28th, he repeated the attempt on our right, and that time must have become satisfied, for since that date he has remained on the defensive. We slowly and gradually drew our

lines about Atlanta, feeling for the railroad which supplied the rebel army and made Atlanta a place of importance.

"We must concede to our enemy that he met these efforts patiently and skilfully, but at last he made the mistake we had waited for so long, and sent his cavalry to our rear far beyond the reach of recall. Instantly our cavalry was on his only remaining road, and we followed quietly with our principal army, and Atlanta fell into our possession as the fruit of well-concerted measures, backed by a brave and confident army."

For military reasons, stated in the report of the Lieutenant General, it was determined that Atlanta should be destroyed, and Sherman's armies push forward to Savannah or some other point on the Atlantic coast.

Shortly before the fall of Atlanta, General Johnston had been superseded in command of the rebel army by General Hood, who, adopting a different system from that pursued by his cautious predecessor, boldly assumed the offensive, with a view to force General Sherman from Georgia, by cutting off his communications, and invading Tennessee and Kentucky. Pursuant to this plan, Hood, by a rapid march, gained and broke up, at Big Shanty, the railroad that supplied Sherman's army, advanced to Dalton, and thence moved towards Tennessee. Hood was followed from Atlanta by General Sherman far enough north to cover his own purpose and assure him against Hood's interrupting the contemplated march to the sea-coast. Sherman turned back suddenly to Atlanta. That city, and all the railroads leading to it, were destroyed, and on the 15th of November the march commenced for Savannah. Advancing in three columns, and living upon the country, the capital of the State and other large towns were occupied without resistance. General Sherman's command, on the 10th of December, "closed in on the enemy's works which covered Savannah." Fort McAllister was gallantly carried by assault on the same day. The city of Savannah, strongly fortified, and garrisoned by a large force under General Hardee, was summoned, but surrender was refused. Preparations for assault were made, and in the night of the 20th of December Hardee evacuated the city, and, with a large part of his garrison, escaped under cover of darkness. The United States troops entered the city early in the morning of the 21st of December. Immense quantities of arms, ammunition, ordnance, and military stores were captured, and the cotton that fell into our hands amounted in value to many millions of dollars.

While General Sherman's army was marching south from Atlanta to the sea-coast the rebel army under Hood, strongly re-enforced, was moving north, threatening Tennessee. The task of encountering this formidable foe, and defending the border States from invasion, was intrusted to Major General George H. Thomas, who was ably assisted by his second in command, Major General Schofield. In his report General Thomas says:

"I found myself confronted by the army which, under General J. E. Johnston, had so skilfully resisted the advance of the whole active army of the military division of the Mississippi from Dalton to the Chattahoochee, re-enforced by a well-equipped and enthusiastic cavalry command of over 12,000 men, led by one of the boldest and most successful cavalry commanders in the rebel army. My



information from all sources confirmed the reported strength stated of Hood's army to be from forty to forty-five thousand infantry and from twelve to fifteen thousand cavalry. My effective force at this time consisted of the 4th corps, about 12,000, under Major General D. S. Stanley; the 23d corps, about 10,000, under Major General Schofield; Hatcher's division of cavalry, about 4,000; Croxton's brigade, 2,500; and Capron's brigade, of about 1,200. The balance of my force was distributed along the railroad, and posted at Murfreesboro', Stevenson, Bridgeport, Huntsville, Decatur, and Chattanooga, to keep open our communications and hold the posts above named; if attacked, until they could be re-enforced, as up to this time it was impossible to determine which course Hood would take, advance on Nashville or turn towards Huntsville. Under these circumstances, it was manifestly best to act on the defensive until sufficiently re-enforced to justify taking the offensive. On the 12th of November communication with General Sherman was severed, the last despatch from him leaving Cartersville, Georgia, at 2.25 p. m. on that date. He had started on his great expedition from Atlanta to the seaboard, leaving me to guard Tennessee, or to pursue the enemy if he followed the commanding general's column. It was, therefore, with considerable anxiety that we watched the force at Florence, to discover what course they would pursue with regard to General Sherman's movements, determining thereby whether the troops under my command, numbering less than half those under Hood, were to act on the defensive in Tennessee, or take the offensive in Alabama."

When the possibility of Hood following Sherman was over, General Thomas took measures to act on the defensive. Re-enforcements of new regiments were hurried forward to him by the governors of the western States. All troops fit for any military duty were collected and sent forward from the hospitals; absentees on leave were called in; the employes in the quartermaster's department were armed and organized for duty in the intrenchments, and two divisions of veteran infantry, under command of General A. J. Smith, that had been serving on the Red river, and afterwards in Missouri, were pushed forward to General Thomas. By these means his forces were speedily swelled, when concentrated, to an army nearly as large as that of the enemy. The public property and garrisons were drawn in from exposed positions and points not required to be held, the fortifications of Nashville were strengthened, and every preparation was made for a struggle of no ordinary magnitude. Hood advanced to Columbia, where his attempt to cross Duck creek was checked for a while by General Schofield, who repulsed the enemy many times with heavy loss. Schofield's main force in front of Columbia was withdrawn on the night of the 29th of November, and a position taken at Franklin on the morning of the 30th. Here took place one of the most fierce and bloody battles of the war. "The enemy," says General Thomas, in his report, "followed closely after General Schofield's rear guard in the retreat to Franklin, and upon coming up with the main force, formed rapidly and advanced to assault our works, repeating attack after attack during the entire afternoon, and as late as 10 p. m. his efforts to break our lines were continued. General Schofield's position was excellently chosen, with both flanks resting on the river, and his men firmly held their ground against an overwhelm-

ing enemy, who was repulsed in every assault along the whole line. Our loss, as given by General Schofield in his report, transmitted herewith, (and to which I respectfully refer,) is 189 killed, 1,033 wounded, and 1,104 missing, making an aggregate of 2,326. We captured and sent to Nashville 702 prisoners, including one general officer and 33 stands of colors. Major General D. S. Stanley, commanding 4th corps, was severely wounded at Franklin while engaged in rallying a portion of his command which had been temporarily overpowered by an overwhelming attack of the enemy. At the time of the battle the enemy's loss was known to be severe, and was estimated at 5,000. The exact figures were only obtained, however, on the reoccupation of Franklin by our forces, after the battles of December 15 and 16, at Brentwood Hills, near Nashville, and are given as follows: Buried upon the field, 1,750; disabled and placed in hospital at Franklin, 3,800; which, with the 702 prisoners already reported, makes an aggregate loss of 6,252, among whom were six general officers killed, six wounded, and one captured. The important results of this signal victory cannot be too highly appreciated; for it not only seriously checked the enemy's advance, and gave General Schofield time to remove his troops and all his property to Nashville, but it also caused deep depression among the men of Hood's army, making them doubly cautious in their subsequent movements."

On the night after the battle of Franklin, General Schofield, by the direction of General Thomas, fell back to Nashville, in front of which city, on the heights, a line of battle was formed by noon of the 1st of December. Hood's army appeared before Nashville on the 2d of December. The intense severity of the weather prevented operations for several days. Both armies were ice-bound for a week previous to the 14th of December, when the weather moderated, and General Thomas, having completed his preparations, issued orders for battle the ensuing day. At an early hour on the morning of the 15th of December General Thomas moved against Hood's army. The battle was furiously contested until nightfall. "The total result was the capture of 16 pieces of artillery and 1,200 prisoners, besides several hundred stands of small arms and about 40 wagons. The enemy had been forced back at all points, with heavy loss, and our casualties were unusually light. The behavior of the troops was unsurpassed for steadiness and alacrity in every movement, and the original plan of battle, with but few alterations, was strictly adhered to. The whole command bivouacked in line of battle during the night on the ground occupied at dark, while preparations were made to renew the battle at an early hour on the morrow."

The battle was renewed on the 16th, at six o'clock in the morning. At three o'clock in the afternoon the enemy's strong position on Overton's Hill was assaulted by the 4th corps. "Immediately following the effect of the 4th corps, Generals Smith's and Schofield's commands moved against the enemy's works in their respective fronts, carrying all before them, irreparably breaking his lines in a dozen places, and capturing all his artillery and thousands of prisoners, among the latter four general officers. Our loss was remarkably small, scarcely mentionable. All of the enemy that did escape were pursued over the



tops of Brentwood or Harpeth Hills. General Wilson's cavalry dismounted, attacked the enemy simultaneously with Schofield and Smith, striking him in reverse, and, gaining firm possession of Granny White pike, cut off his retreat by that route. Wood's and Steedman's troops, hearing the shouts of victory coming from the right, rushed impetuously forward, renewing the assault on Overton's Hill, and although meeting a very heavy fire, the onset was irresistible, artillery and innumerable prisoners falling into our hands. The enemy, hopelessly broken, fled in confusion through the Brentwood Pass, the 4th corps in a close pursuit, which was continued for several miles, when darkness closed the scene, and the troops rested from their labors. During the two days' operations there were 4,462 prisoners captured, including 287 officers of all grades from that of major general, 53 pieces of artillery, and thousands of small-arms. The enemy abandoned on the field all of his dead and wounded."

At the battle of Nashville, Hood's army, which at one time was considered the best drilled and most formidable rebel force set on foot during the war, disappeared as an army organization. Commanded successively by Bragg, Johnston, and Hood, many bloody fields proved the courage of the soldiers and the skill of its commanders. The shattered fragments of this army were pursued from Nashville to the Tennessee river by the main forces of General Thomas, and were followed and harassed for two hundred miles by detached commands. In his report General Thomas remarks: "To Colonel Palmer and his command is accorded the credit of giving Hood's army the last blow of the campaign, at a distance of over two hundred miles from where we first struck the enemy on the 15th of December, near Nashville." What troops escaped from the pursuit were afterwards united with other fragments of rebel forces under General Johnston, and finally laid down their arms to General Sherman at Raleigh.

While the events that have been mentioned were transpiring in the main armies, other military operations of less magnitude, but contributing to the general result by harassing and weakening the enemy, were in progress. A large rebel force, under John Morgan, invaded Kentucky, and was defeated by General Burbridge in a severe engagement at Cynthiana on the 12th day of June. John Morgan was surprised and killed, and his staff captured by General Gillem on the 4th day of September, 1864. In the month of November a rebel expedition, under Breckinridge, Duke, and Vaughn, was repulsed by General Ammon, and driven from East Tennessee. An expedition, under General Stoneman and General Burbridge, penetrated to Saltville, in southwestern Virginia, destroyed the works at that place, broke up the railroads, and inflicted great destruction upon the enemy's supplies and communications.

After the withdrawal of our troops from the Red river, a large rebel force advanced under Sterling Price into Kansas, and penetrated thence into the department of the Missouri. But they were at length driven back with heavy loss.

Other military operations, of greater or less magnitude, occurred during the year—some attended with disaster, some with brilliant success. Of the former class were Kilpatrick's raid against Richmond, the capture of Plymouth and its

garrison, at the commencement of the year, by the rebels under Hoke; the defeat of the expedition from Memphis, under General Sturgis; the capture of Fort Pillow by Chalmers and Forrest; and Stoneman's expedition to Andersonville. On the other hand, the raids of Grierson from Memphis, in December, of Stoneman and Burbridge into Virginia, of Wilson into Alabama, inflicted sore distress upon the enemy, and brought the rebels to a solemn sense of the sufferings caused to themselves by the war they had undertaken against their government.

At the commencement of the year 1865 all hearts were more anxious than ever to bring the war to a speedy close. Every preparation to that end was made by the department and by the military commanders in the field. Adequate appropriations were voted and new popular loans authorized by Congress. Further measures for recruiting the army, prompted by experience, were enacted. A new draft for half a million of men was put into prompt execution. The State executives renewed their labors in calling for volunteers. The people responded to the demands of the occasion, and rapid recruitment began in all the States, and was at its height when Richmond fell. Troops were at that time being raised, organized, armed and equipped as fast as they could be conveniently transported to the field. To the coming campaigns through the Carolinas and in Virginia all eyes looked for a speedy and decisive result that should end the war. The military position is thus stated by the Lieutenant General:

"In March, 1865, General Canby was moving an adequate force against Mobile and the army defending it, under General Dick Taylor; Thomas was pushing out two large and well-appointed cavalry expeditions—one from Middle Tennessee, under Brevet Major General Wilson, against the enemy's vital points in Alabama; the other from East Tennessee, under Major General Stoneman, towards Lynchburg—and assembling the remainder of his available forces, preparatory to offensive operations from East Tennessee; General Sheridan's cavalry was at White House; the armies of the Potomac and James were confronting the enemy under Lee in his defences of Richmond and Petersburg; General Sherman, with his armies, re-enforced by that of General Schofield, was at Goldsboro'; General Pope was making preparations for a spring campaign against the enemy under Kirby Smith and Price, west of the Mississippi; and General Hancock was concentrating a force in the vicinity of Winchester, Va., to guard against invasion, or to operate offensively, as might prove necessary."

Official reports show that on the first of March, 1865, the aggregate national military force of all arms, officers and men, was nine hundred and sixty-five thousand five hundred and ninety-one, to wit:

Available force present for duty.....	602,598
On detached service in the different military departments.....	132,538
In field hospitals or unfit for duty.....	35,628
In general hospitals or on sick leave at home.....	143,449
Absent on furlough or as prisoners of war.....	31,695
Absent without leave.....	19,683
Grand aggregate.....	<u>965,591</u>



This force was augmented on the first of May, 1865, by enlistments, to the number of one million five hundred and sixteen of all arms, officers and men, (1,000,516.)

The aggregate available force present for duty on the first of March was distributed in the different commands as follows:

Army of the Potomac.....	103, 273
Headquarters military division of the Mississippi.....	17
Department of the Cumberland.....	62, 626
Department of the Tennessee.....	45, 649
Left wing army of Georgia.....	31, 644
Cavalry corps military divisions of the Mississippi.....	27, 410
Headquarters military division of West Mississippi.....	24
Reserve brigades military division of West Mississippi.....	13, 748
Department of the Gulf.....	35, 625
Department of Arkansas.....	24, 509
Department of the Mississippi.....	24, 151
Sixteenth army corps.....	14, 395
Headquarters military division of the Missouri.....	12
Department of the Missouri.....	18, 557
Department of the Northwest.....	4, 731
Headquarters middle military division.....	841
Cavalry forces middle military division.....	12, 980
Nineteenth army corps.....	6, 612
Middle department.....	2, 089
Department of Washington.....	26, 056
Department of West Virginia.....	15, 517
Department of Pennsylvania.....	820
Department of the East.....	7, 462
Department of Virginia.....	45, 986
Department of North Carolina.....	34, 945
Department of the South.....	11, 510
Department of Kentucky.....	10, 655
Northern department.....	11, 229
Department of the Pacific.....	7, 024
Department of New Mexico.....	2, 501
Grand total.....	<u>602, 598</u>

The active operations of 1865 began with the reduction of Fort Fisher, by a combined expedition of land and naval forces. The port of Wilmington, North Carolina, during the whole war, had been a principal point of foreign trade with the rebels. The advantage of its position defied the most rigorous blockade, and, after the fall of Savannah, it was the only gate through which foreign supplies could pass to the rebels. The strong works and garrison of Fort Fisher, at the mouth of Cape Fear river, were the main defence of Wilmington. On

the 13th of December a force of about 6,500 men, under Major General Butler, started from Fortress Monroe to operate in conjunction with a naval force under Admiral Porter, against Fort Fisher. General Butler effected a landing on the 25th of December, but re-embarked on the 27th, and returned with his troops to Fortress Monroe. The Lieutenant General ordered the enterprise to be renewed by General Terry, who, on the 2d of January, was placed in command of the same troops, with a re-enforcement that made the whole number about eight thousand. On the morning of the 13th of January the troops were disembarked, under cover of a heavy effective fire from the fleet. An assault was made in the afternoon of the 15th of January, and, after desperate hand-to-hand fighting for several hours, the works were carried, the enemy driven out, and about midnight the whole garrison, with its commander, General Whiting, surrendered. The fall of Fort Fisher carried with it the other defences of Cape Fear river. Fort Caswell and the works on Smith's island fell into our hands on the 16th and 17th, Fort Anderson on the 19th, and, General Schofield advancing, the enemy were driven from Wilmington on the 21st of February.

Early in the month of January Major General Sherman, having refitted his army, entered upon his campaign from Savannah, through the States of South Carolina and North Carolina, the incidents of which are detailed in his accompanying report. Its result is thus stated in his special Field Order No. 76:

"Waiting at Savannah only long enough to fill our wagons, we again began a march, which, for peril, labor and results, will compare with any ever made by an organized army. The floods of the Savannah, the swamps of the Combahee and Edisto, the 'high hills' and rocks of the Santee, the flat quagmires of the Pedee and Cape Fear rivers, were all passed in mid-winter, with its floods and rains, in the face of an accumulating enemy; and after the battles of Averysboro' and Bentonville we once more came out of the wilderness to meet our friends at Goldsborough. Even then we paused only long enough to get new clothing, to reload our wagons, and again pushed on to Raleigh and beyond, until we met our enemy suing for peace instead of war, and offering to submit to the injured laws of his and our country."

The operations in General Canby's military division also exercised an important influence at this juncture. After the disaster upon the Red river, a change of the military organization west of the Mississippi was made to meet the emergency. The departments of Arkansas and the Gulf, including Louisiana and Texas, were united in one military division—West Mississippi, under command of Major General Canby. His efforts were directed to the organization and concentration of the forces and material within his division, and in measures to prevent the rebel troops west of the Mississippi from re-enforcing the armies operating east of that river. In the month of July Fort Gaines, Fort Powell and Fort Morgan, constituting important defences of Mobile bay, were reduced by a combined movement of land forces, under General Gordon Granger, detached by General Canby, and co-operating with a naval force under Admiral Farragut. Early in the spring of 1865 a large force, under Generals A. J. Smith, Gordon Granger and F. Steele, was directed against the city of Mobile. The



enemy were driven out of Spanish Fort by bombardment, Fort Blakely was taken by assault, and the city of Mobile was evacuated by the enemy on the 12th of April. The brilliance of these achievements has been overshadowed by the grander scale of operations in other quarters, but their skill and success are worthy of high admiration. After the fall of Savannah, Charleston and Wilmington, the enemy had placed his last hopes on retaining a foothold in the cotton States at Mobile. It was strongly fortified and garrisoned, and orders were issued to hold it at every hazard.

In the latter part of February General Sheridan, under direction of the Lieutenant General, moved from Winchester to Staunton, which place he captured on the 2d of March, taking prisoners, artillery and military stores. He thence moved on Charlottesville, and destroyed the Richmond and Lynchburg railroad, and the bridges across the Rivanna river. Dividing his forces, one column moved to New Market and destroyed the James river canal; the other column pushed towards Lynchburg, destroying the railroad to Amherst Court House. These columns, reuniting, moved to the White House, on the Pamunkey, effecting great destruction of the canal on their route, and thence put themselves in communication with the forces around Richmond.

The month of March, 1865, opened the great campaign against Richmond and the army that had so long defended the rebel capital.

Instructions were given by the Lieutenant General on the 24th of March for a general movement of the national forces around Richmond. It commenced on the morning of the 29th of March. Ten days' marching and fighting finished the campaign. Richmond, Petersburg, the army of Virginia and its commander were captured. Jefferson Davis and his so-called confederate government were fugitives or prisoners of war. Davis fled from Richmond on the afternoon of Sunday, the 2d day of April. The national forces occupied Petersburg and entered Richmond Monday morning. Lee's army was pursued until it reached Appomattox Court House, where on Sunday, the 9th day of April, it laid down its arms on the terms prescribed by General Grant.

From this period the history of the war is but an enumeration of successive surrenders by rebel commanders. On the 26th day of April General Johnston surrendered his command to Major General Sherman, at Raleigh, North Carolina. General Howell Cobb, with twelve hundred militia and five generals, surrendered to General Wilson, at Macon, Georgia, on the 20th of April. General Dick Taylor, on the 14th of May, surrendered all the remaining rebel forces east of the Mississippi to General Canby. On the 11th of May Jefferson Davis, disguised and in flight, was captured at Irwingsville, Georgia. On the 26th of May, General Kirby Smith surrendered his entire command, west of the Mississippi, to Major General Canby. With this surrender the organized rebel force disappeared from the territory of the United States.

The flag of the United States was lowered at Fort Sumter on the 14th of April, 1861, by Major Anderson, who, long besieged by overwhelming rebel forces, was compelled, with his small garrison, to evacuate the works. On the anni-

versary of that day, four years later, the rebel forces having been driven from Charleston, the national banner was planted again upon Fort Sumter, under the orders of the President, by the hands of General Anderson, with appropriate military and naval ceremonies, and a commemorative address delivered by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

Their victorious campaigns ended, the armies of the Tennessee and the Cumberland and the army of the Potomac marched through Richmond to the federal capital, where they were reviewed by the President and the distinguished commanders under whom they had so long and so gallantly served in the field. After this national ceremony they and their fellow-soldiers in other commands were paid, and, as rapidly as the condition of affairs would admit were released from the military service of the country; and, returning to their homes in the several States, they were welcomed with the thanks and rejoicings of a grateful people.

One other event may properly be noticed in this report, as a part of the military history of the rebellion. While our armies, by their gallantry and courage and the skill of their commanders, were overcoming all resistance in the field to the national authority, a swift and sudden blow was aimed at the national existence and at the life of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy, which, for atrocity in its circumstances, the cruel art that designed it, and the peril to which it exposed the government, is unsurpassed in the history of nations. Shortly before the Richmond campaign opened President Lincoln went to the headquarters of Lieutenant General Grant at City Point, where he remained until the capture of Petersburg and Richmond. After their occupation by our forces he visited those cities, and returned to Washington on the evening of Sunday, the 9th day of April. The despatch of the Lieutenant General, announcing General Lee's surrender, was communicated to him about eleven o'clock Sunday night. From that time until he was assassinated his attention was earnestly directed to the restoration of peace and the reorganization of civil government in the insurgent States. In a public address to an assemblage that met at the Executive Mansion on the evening of Wednesday, the 12th of April, to congratulate him on the success of our arms, his views and some of his measures were explained. On the night of the following Friday the President was shot by an assassin, and expired at about seven o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the 15th of April. This assassination appeared to be part of a deliberate, comprehensive conspiracy to assassinate the President, Vice President, Secretary of State, Lieutenant-General, and other officers of the government, with a view to its disorganization. About the same hour of the President's murder, an effort was made to assassinate the Secretary of State, who was then confined to his bed by serious injuries, accidentally received a few days before. He and other members of his family were dangerously wounded. Some of the parties engaged in this conspiracy were tried, convicted, and executed; others are still under sentence of imprisonment for life. The details are given in the report of the Judge Advocate General. The designs upon the Vice President and the Lieutenant General failed; and upon the death of the Presi-



dent, the Vice President was sworn into office, and assumed the duties of President of the United States. These events were promptly communicated to the armies by general orders, and from thenceforth until the present time the government has been administered by Andrew Johnson as Chief Executive and Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy.

The destruction of the rebel military power opened the way to re-establish civil government in the insurgent States. From that period the functions of the military department became simply co-operative with other branches of the federal government.

Nashville, Tennessee, was the first capital of an insurgent State in which the federal authority was re-established. The rebel army was driven out on the 23d day of February, 1862, and that city occupied by the Union forces. On the 3d day of March, 1862, Andrew Johnson, then senator in Congress from the State of Tennessee—the only senator from an insurgent State who retained his seat in Congress—was appointed military governor of the State of Tennessee. He accepted the appointment, and promptly entered upon his duties, and continued to exercise them until his resignation on the 3d day of March, 1865. In all the vicissitudes of the war his administration was directed to the establishment and maintenance of the Constitution and laws of the United States within and over the State of Tennessee. Without entering upon details it is sufficient to remark that extension of civil authority kept pace with the reduction of the rebel power. The federal courts were opened, and justice administered. Under his direction, against many discouragements and much opposition, great advance was made towards the full re-establishment of civil authority, and the restoration of the State to its practical relations to the federal government. He issued a proclamation on the 6th of January, 1864, for the election of township and county officers, justices of the peace, constables, trustees, sheriffs, clerks, registers, and tax collectors. In the month of May a convention was held at Knoxville, East Tennessee, to devise measures for restoring civil government in the State. In the month of August another convention was called to meet at Nashville on the 5th of September, to reorganize the State. A full convention being prevented by the condition of military affairs, this body recommended that another convention, "elected by the loyal people," should assemble at an early day to revise the State constitution. The governor issued a proclamation on the 7th of September, announcing that he should proceed to appoint officers and establish tribunals "in all the counties and districts of the State whenever the people gave evidence of loyalty and a desire for civil government, and a willingness to sustain the officers and tribunals." A convention was called to meet on the 9th of January, 1865, at Nashville, to revise the State constitution. This convention met, amendments to the State constitution were adopted, slavery was abolished, and provision made for submitting the amendments to the people, and for holding elections. The amendments were ratified by popular vote. A governor, legislature, and members of Congress were subsequently (on the 4th of March) elected by the people. The legislature assembled on the first Monday of April; the abolition of slavery was enacted, senators to Congress elected, and a State government was fully

organized, and has since continued in action. This system of reorganization having been found practicable by actual experience, it was adopted by the President, with such modifications as he deemed proper, for all the insurgent States, and is now in course of execution.

The disposition exhibited after the surrender of their armies in all the insurgent States to submit to the national authority dispensed with the necessity of keeping large armies on foot, and indicated the degree to which the war power might be reduced. So much only of the national military force has been kept in each State as is needed to keep the peace, protect the public property, and enforce the laws.

It was apparent that by the surrender of General Lee and his army, the military power, on which alone the rebellion rested, was irretrievably broken, no doubt being entertained that Lee's surrender would be followed by that of Johnston, and perhaps by all other commanders of the insurgent forces. The attention of the department was immediately directed to the following objects, and on the 13th of April, four days after Lee's surrender, public notice was given that orders would be speedily issued to carry them into effect, viz:

First. To stop all drafting and recruiting in the loyal States.

Second. To curtail purchases of arms, ammunition, quartermaster and commissary supplies, and reduce the expenses of the military establishment in the several branches.

Third. To reduce the number of general and staff officers to the actual necessities of the service.

Fourth. To remove all military restrictions upon trade and commerce, so far as might be consistent with the public safety.

These measures have been carried into effect from time to time, as the exigencies of the service would admit. It will be seen from the report of the Adjutant General that troops to the number of 800,963 have already been mustered, paid off, and disbanded. Further reduction is contemplated. Upon the discharge of troops the services of a great number of staff, field, and general officers were no longer required. Of these some have resigned, and others were honorably mustered out. No doubt in many instances it has been painful for gallant and accomplished officers to leave that service to which they have been accustomed, and where they have won honorable distinction. But it is to the credit of the volunteer service that they have recognized the obligation of the government to reduce the military establishment with the occasion that called it into existence, and that their own wishes or interest have not been importunately urged against the necessities of the service.

The disposition of the veteran reserve corps presented some considerations of peculiar nature. It was the inclination of the department to retain it in service until the meeting of Congress. But inquiry showed that a very small per cent. of enlisted men were content to remain in service. All who desired have therefore been discharged, and supernumerary officers mustered out.

Recruiting to fill the regular regiments has continued. Several thousand applications for commissions in the regular service are on file. These commis-