

they reached Havana, and there embarked on an English mail steamer, the *Trent*, for England. This steamer was stopped by the United States sloop-of-war *San Jacinto*, commanded by Captain Wilkes, and the commissioners were taken off as prisoners of war. The North was at first delighted with this capture, but England angrily demanded the release of the prisoners, and began to prepare for war. It seemed that the hope of the Confederacy was to be realized, and war between England and the United States would follow. But the war was averted. The Queen and Prince Albert urged pacific measures, and Secretary of State Seward released the prisoners and placed them under British protection. The capture was directly contrary to the principle for which the United States had fought in 1812, — the right of neutrals to be free from search. Secretary Seward won an important diplomatic victory in this transaction, for war with England was averted, and England was committed against the right of search.

541. **Summary of the First Year of the War.** — At Fort Sumter the war began. In Virginia the Confederates were successful, and won a brilliant victory at Bull Run. In Missouri the Confederates gained a victory at Wilson's Creek, but before the end of the year retired to the extreme South, leaving the state in the hands of the Union soldiers. The navy of the United States was very successful, both in shutting up the ports, making the blockade effectual, and in capturing several important forts.

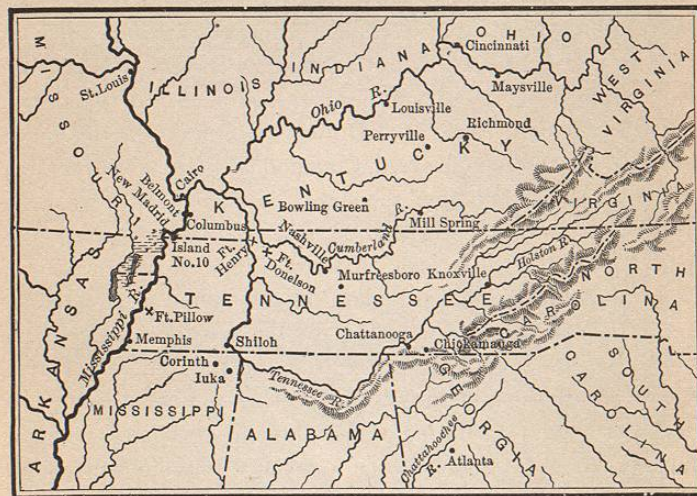
EVENTS OF 1862.

IN THE WEST.

The Confederate line of defense west of the Cumberland Mountains was under the command of the brilliant Texas soldier, Albert Sidney Johnston. This line extended from the Cumberland Mountains through Mill Spring to Columbus on the Mississippi, and included Fort Henry on the Tennessee and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland, the forts being within twelve miles of each other. Arrayed against this line of

defense was General Buell with a force of 100,000 men in central Kentucky, and General Grant with 15,000 men at Cairo, Ill.

542. **Mill Spring.** — In January a division of Buell's army under General George H. Thomas moved against the Confed-



Operations in the West.

erate force at Mill Spring. The gallant General Zollicoffer, commanding the Confederates, was killed in the engagement, and his force was pushed back into Tennessee.

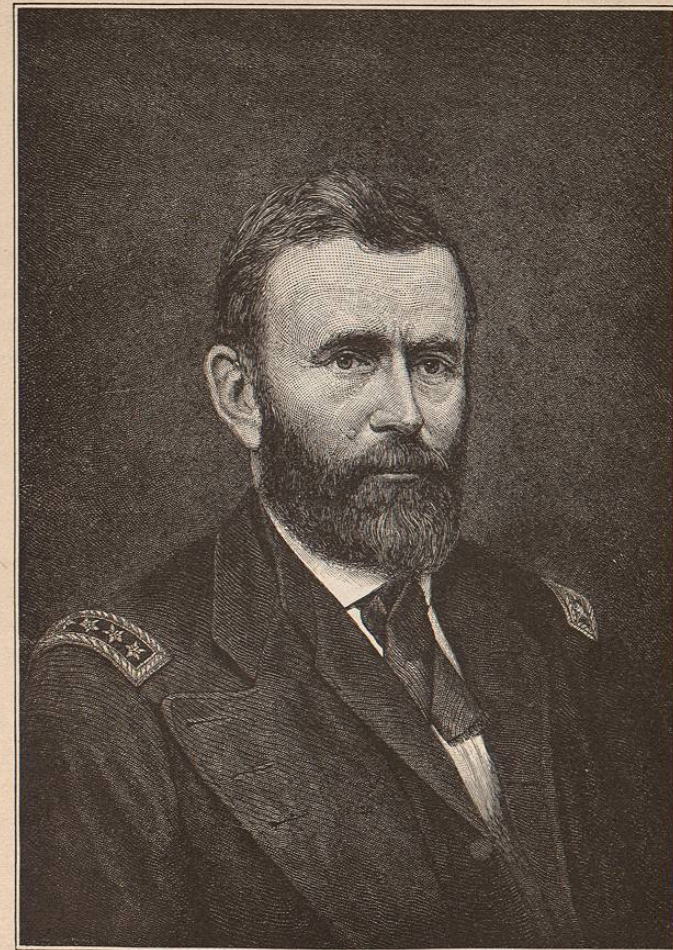
543. **Forts Henry and Donelson.** — The Federals had concentrated forces and gunboats at the mouths of the Tennessee and the Cumberland Rivers, with the intention of using these streams as highways for penetrating Confederate territory. In February General Grant embarked on a fleet of gunboats, commanded by Commodore Foote, and moved up the Tennessee River. When within a few miles of Fort Henry, Grant's force marched out to surround the fort and prevent the escape of the garrison. Commodore Foote moved up the river and stormed the fort from the water side. The little force of 2500

men had two forces aggregating 16,000 men closing in upon it. With a few hundred men, the commander of the fort engaged the gunboats, while the major portion of his command left the fort before Grant appeared, and made their escape to Fort Donelson. Only a small force surrendered, but the loss of the fort was a severe blow to the South, as the Tennessee was now open.

Grant and Foote, with 35,000 men, now moved on Fort Donelson. The fort was defended by 15,000 men under Generals Floyd, Pillow, and Buckner. During the first day of the battle several gunboats were disabled, Commodore Foote was wounded, and the fleet retired from the siege. The land force was also driven from an important position, so that a line of retreat was opened for the Confederates. Afterward the tide turned against the Confederates, and the Federal forces gained a strong position. The officers commanding the fort felt their danger, but could not agree upon a course to pursue. Generals Floyd, Pillow, and Forrest, taking three or four thousand men with them, left the fort during the night and escaped. General Buckner asked for a conference to arrange terms of surrender. Grant replied that he would grant no terms but "unconditional surrender." General Buckner surrendered without terms the force of more than 10,000 men that remained in the fort.

The line of defense was now broken, Nashville was abandoned, and the Confederate forces retired through Tennessee into northern Mississippi.

544. Battle of Shiloh or Pittsburg Landing.—General Grant moved up the Tennessee River and encamped at Pittsburg Landing, near the boundary line between Mississippi and Tennessee. Buell's army was marching to join Grant, and together they intended to crush the Confederates. But General Johnston had no idea of being crushed, and he did not wait to be attacked. On the morning of April 6 he fell on Grant's army near Shiloh church, and a severe fight ensued. The Confederates were everywhere victorious; they drove the



GENERAL GRANT.

withdrew from Nashville. President Lincoln appointed Andrew Johnson military governor of Tennessee.

546. Battle of Pea Ridge. — It had been General Johnston's plan to have the troops west of the Mississippi unite with his forces before any attack was made on the Union army. This plan was frustrated by the Union army under General Curtis. A bloody engagement at Pea Ridge, or Elk Horn, in Arkansas, on March 7, in which the Confederates suffered severe loss, including the gallant General Ben McCulloch, destroyed all hope of reinforcing Johnston, and left Missouri in the hands of the Union army.

547. Bragg's Invasion. — After Beauregard evacuated Corinth he was succeeded by General Bragg, who undertook to invade Tennessee and Kentucky and recover them for the Confederacy. He occupied Chattanooga, and, aided by General Kirby Smith, penetrated Kentucky to the vicinity of Louisville without much opposition. General Smith's command won a victory at Richmond, Kentucky. Buell, who had been watching Bragg's movements, ran a race with him and got to Louisville first. The battle of Perryville was fought between the two armies on the 8th of October. The Confederates were successful in the fight, but the Union forces were so much stronger in numbers that Bragg retreated to Chattanooga, carrying with him an immense quantity of arms, ammunition, and other supplies which he had captured. The Union army took position at Nashville.

548. Iuka and Corinth. — When Bragg moved northward he left a strong Confederate force under Van Dorn and Price to watch Grant, who occupied Corinth. Two of the hottest fights of the war occurred between these armies. At Iuka the Confederates lost the day, and their attack on Corinth, though at first successful, ended in defeat¹ (October 4, 1862).

¹ Colonel W. P. Rogers of the Second Texas led a charge upon the Federal intrenchments, and fell with the colors in his hand just as he had leaped upon the

549. Battle of Murfreesboro. — From Chattanooga the Confederate troops moved toward Nashville, intrenching themselves at Murfreesboro with the intention of going into winter quarters. But Rosecrans, who had succeeded Buell in command of the Union army, decided to attack the Confederates. Bragg moved out to meet him. The armies were unequally matched — 43,000 Federals to 37,000 Confederates — and here, on the last day of the year, began one of the bloodiest battles of the war. By a singular coincidence each of the generals had formed the plan of attacking his opponent's right wing. Bragg was first; and his left wing drove back Rosecrans's right, with great loss, so as to uncover half of the field, and to permit General Wharton, of Texas, with his cavalry force, to get in the rear of the Union army, and intercept supply trains, and capture 2000 prisoners. The next attack was made on the Union center. Here the defense of the Union soldiers was heroic, but the line was carried at the point of the bayonet. The remaining wing was now charged, but it was in a very advantageous position and held its ground. The battle lasted three days, neither side gaining a victory. On the night of January 3 (1863), Bragg withdrew his forces, and both armies went into winter quarters. The loss of the Confederates was 9865; of the Federals, 13,249.

550. On the Lower Mississippi; Capture of New Orleans; Sibley in New Mexico. — We have seen (§ 534) that it was an important part of the plan of conquering the South that it should be deprived of the control of the Mississippi River. We have also seen (§ 545) that the upper Mississippi had been opened as far as Vicksburg. New Orleans was a place of much importance to the Confederacy, both because it was the great

embankment and was cheering on his men. The Federal troops, in admiration of his bravery, gave his body an honorable burial. General W. L. Cabell, whose desperate valor won him the appellation of "Old Tige," was severely wounded on the Federal breastworks while charging at the head of an Arkansas brigade. It was at Corinth that General Sul Ross, of Texas, obtained the title of "the hero of Corinth."

metropolis of the South, and because it guarded the mouth of the Mississippi. In November, 1861, the United States government decided to fit out an expedition to capture New Orleans. This expedition (the most powerful naval force that had ever sailed under the United States flag) consisted of nearly fifty armed vessels, including war sloops, gunboats, and bomb schooners, the bomb schooners being a special force under the control of Commodore Porter. The fleet was commanded by Captain Farragut. The vessels carried a land force of 15,000 soldiers under General B. F. Butler to be used as occasion might require. New Orleans, hearing early in the year of the mighty preparations for its capture, set to work as best she could to prepare defenses. On opposite banks, seventy-five miles below the city, Forts Jackson and St. Philip were built to guard the mouth of the Mississippi. A raft of logs and hulks, lashed together with chains, was stretched across the river above the forts to bar the passage of vessels. With its utmost efforts the city could collect only a small fleet of twelve vessels. Of these the only iron-clad war-ship, the *Louisiana*, from which much was hoped, could not be gotten ready in time, and remained tied up to the bank during the engagement. Rafts designed to be fired and pushed down upon the enemy were also prepared. All the Confederate soldiers except one company had been sent to the front; the city was defended by a force of 3000 volunteers, poorly armed and inexperienced, commanded by Major Lovell.

On April 18 the mortar boats began shelling the forts; they kept up the bombardment six days, firing in all about 20,000 shells. The forts returned the fire with vigor. Little damage was done to either side. Captain Farragut, tired of the futile attack upon the forts, resolved to try other measures. A night expedition cut the chains which held the great raft, and before day on the morning of the 24th the fleet of gunboats attempted to proceed up the river. A fierce engagement ensued. The flash of cannon was incessant, collisions both accidental and

intended crippled and sank vessels, burning boats drifted helplessly down stream, and fire-rafts were pushed against the Union ships. Many of the Confederate boats were destroyed by the enemy, others were destroyed by their crews to keep them from falling into the enemy's hands; only one was saved. The Union forces lost many boats, but in the end thirteen of them steamed up to New Orleans and demanded the surrender of the city.¹ The volunteer force, fearing to provoke the bombardment and destruction of the city, offered no resistance. General Butler came in with his soldiers and established military control. His rule was so unjust, tyrannical, and rapacious that President Davis issued a proclamation outlawing him.

The loss of New Orleans was the greatest blow the Confederacy received during the year. The Mississippi River was now almost opened to the Union vessels. The Confederates still held strong forts at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, and continued to hold them during this year.

In New Mexico.—In the winter of 1861-2 a brigade of Texans under General H. H. Sibley entered New Mexico, defeated the Federal troops under General Canby at Val Verde, occupied Santa Fé, and were again successful in the engagement at Glorietta. Finding his small force and scanty supplies inadequate to hold the territory, Sibley retired toward Texas. At Peralta a severe engagement took place. The Texans, continuing their retreat, returned to San Antonio.

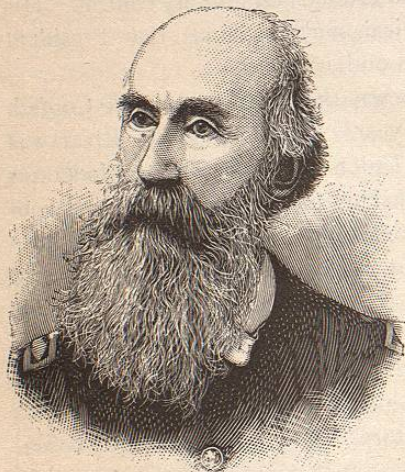
IN THE EAST.

OPERATIONS ON THE SEA.

551. The Monitor and the Merrimac.—For the first time in the history of the world, vessels covered with iron were to

¹ The Union force had 302 guns, 63 per cent of which were above 32-pound calibre. The Confederate forts and vessels had 166 guns, only 30 per cent of which were above 32-pound calibre. The Union fleet that steamed up the river carried 192 guns, while the Confederate fleet had only 40 guns, and 16 of these, the best, were on the useless *Louisiana*.

be used in naval warfare. England and France had built iron-clads, but they had never been tested in battle. The Confederates raised the frigate *Merrimac*, which had been sunk when the Federal navy-yard at Norfolk was abandoned, and, after plans originated by John M. Brooke,¹ refitted it as an iron-clad ram. When finished, this vessel, rechristened the *Virginia*, presented a very formidable appearance, and was the first iron-clad ever tried in battle. Cannon balls rebounded harmless from her sides. On March 8 she left the port, steamed into



John M. Brooke.

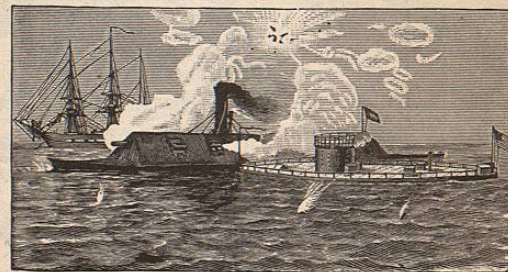
Hampton Roads (at the mouth of the James), and played havoc with the powerful Union fleet lying there. The *Cumberland* was sunk, the *Congress* was burnt, and the other ships were driven into the shoals or put to flight. Consternation spread in the North, where it was feared that the new iron-clad would attack her great sea-ports. Even Washington itself would be at the mercy of the monster.

While the *Merrimac* was being iron-plated, John Ericsson had been busy at New York inventing and constructing a turret ship, named the *Monitor*. It was a small, flat craft, much smaller than the *Virginia*, and very much less exposed to the enemy's fire, and carried in a revolving turret two guns so enormous that they could shoot heavier balls than had ever been used in war. So great was the hurry to get the *Monitor* to Hampton Roads that the vessel had not been tested, and little was known

¹ Brooke was an associate and co-laborer of Commodore Maury. He had invented an apparatus for deep-sea soundings (§ 503)

of its real merit. It reached Hampton Roads in the night, and took up a position behind the *Minnesota*. Early the next morning when the *Virginia* steamed forth to complete her work of destruction, she was unexpectedly confronted by her little iron opponent. Four hours of desperate combat ensued. When the fighting ceased the *Monitor* was considerably damaged. She retired to shallow water where the *Virginia* could not reach her and where she was protected by the guns along shore. She was afterwards instructed not to risk another engagement with the *Virginia*, and though the *Virginia* twice afterward appeared in the waters of Hampton Roads, the *Monitor* kept her safe position. When Norfolk was captured by the Federals the *Virginia* was destroyed by the Confederates. At the end of the year the *Monitor* foundered off Cape Hatteras.

This day's battle revolutionized naval warfare. Both the Confederate and United States governments began the construction of iron-clad vessels, and the navies of all foreign powers had to be reconstructed.



The Monitor and the Merrimac.

The Union navy was successful in many places along the coast. At the end of the year only two large sea-port towns on the Atlantic coast, Charleston and Wilmington, were preserved to the Confederacy. The blockade became more and more effectual as the places to be guarded decreased in number.

OPERATIONS IN VIRGINIA.

552. Advance toward Richmond; the Peninsular Campaign. — McClellan, who, on account of his successes in West