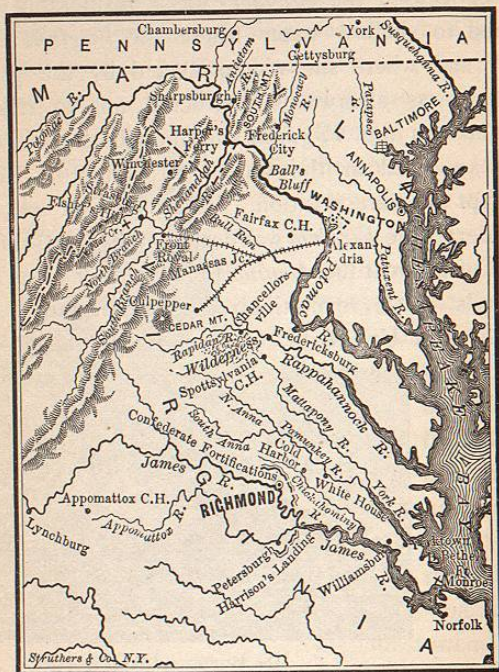


Virginia, had been called to take command of the Northern army, had spent the winter of 1861-2 in drilling his men and preparing for an advance on Richmond. Instead of pursuing the plan of the previous year, he decided to sail down the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay, and, landing at Fortress Mon-



Eastern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley.

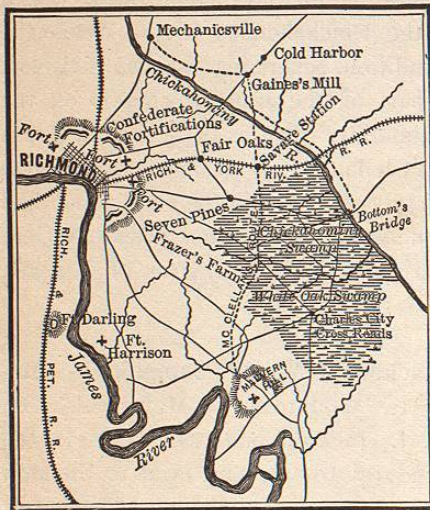
roe, to approach the Confederate capital by way of the peninsula between the James and the York Rivers. General J. E. Johnston now commanded the Confederate forces on the Peninsula. After a month's siege, early in May, Yorktown was evacuated. Johnston withdrew before the superior forces of McClellan. At Williamsburg an indecisive engagement took place. McClellan continued to advance. The Confed-

erates abandoned Norfolk and Federal gunboats steamed up the James toward Richmond, which was now threatened by McClellan from the Peninsula, McDowell from Fredericksburg, and by the Union fleet. The batteries of Fort Darling on James River, eight miles below Richmond, stopped the advance of the Federal gunboats. In order that when a junction with McDowell was made, an army might still be between the Confederate army and Washington, McClellan threw but a part of his forces across the Chickahominy River. While the river was in a swollen condition, separating the two divisions, Johnston attacked that part of the army which was on the south side of the Chickahominy. In this battle, called Seven Pines, or Fair Oaks, McClellan barely escaped a complete rout. Johnston was severely wounded in the battle, and had to withdraw from the command. He was succeeded by General Robert E. Lee, who commanded the army of Virginia until the close of the war.

553. "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign.— McClellan had expected to be reinforced by McDowell. To prevent this, General T. J. Jackson undertook to clear the Shenandoah Valley of Federal troops, and even to threaten Washington. The campaign was one of the most brilliant in history. Concealing his plans even from his own officers, in forty days he marched his army of 15,000 men nearly 400 miles, attacked and defeated in succession four bodies of troops commanded by Milroy, Banks, Fremont, and Shields, aggregating three times his own force. Washington was thought to be in danger, and McDowell, instead of reinforcing McClellan, was called back to the capital to protect it from Jackson. Having secured this result, Jackson left the valley region and had united his forces with Lee's before his adversaries knew what he was about. Meanwhile, General J. E. B. Stuart had made his famous cavalry ride around McClellan's army, doing much

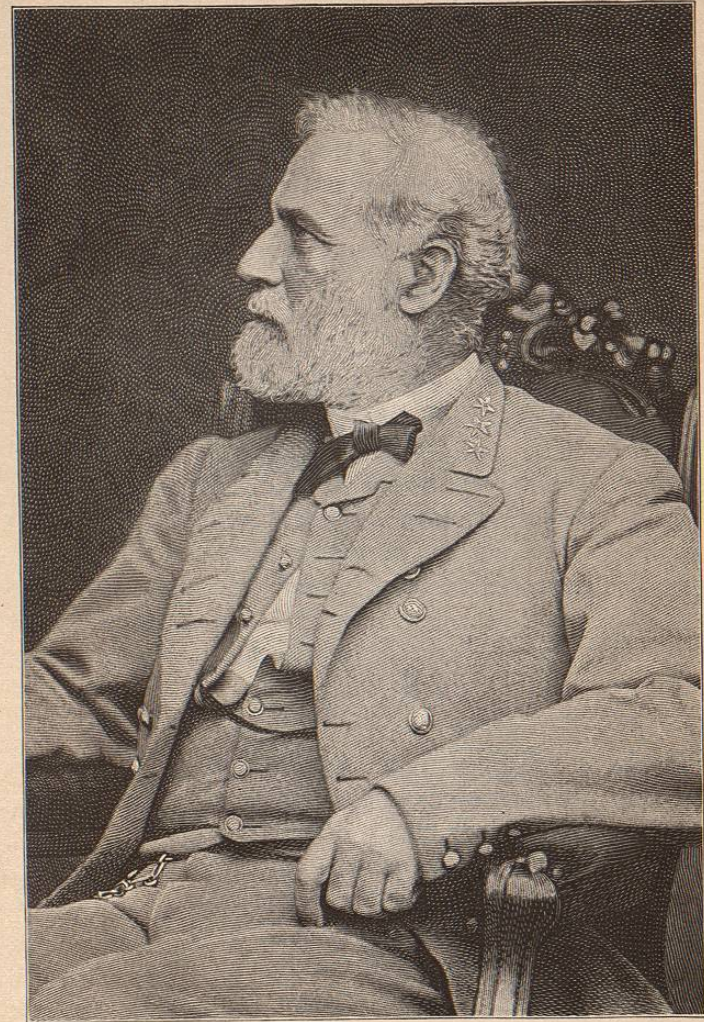
damage and greatly interfering with that commander's plans, besides learning the exact position of his troops.

554. The Seven Days' Battles. — Lee now determined to strike that part of McClellan's army which was still north of the Chickahominy. Keeping part of his forces near Richmond to defend the city, he threw a body of troops across the Chickahominy to attack the



The Seven Days' Battles.

hominny to attack the Federal position at Mechanicsville, while Stonewall Jackson, from the Shenandoah Valley, at the same time fell upon the enemy's flank. McClellan was driven from his intrenchments (June 26). At Gaines's Mill, on the next day, Lee again attacked him and won a brilliant victory. Discouraged by defeat, and cut off from his base of supplies on the York River, McClellan now withdrew all his forces to the south side of the Chickahominy, and began a retrograde movement toward the shelter of the Union gunboats on the James River, where a new base of supplies could be established. His retreating columns were assailed by the Confederates on successive days at Savage Station, Frazer's Farm, and White Oak Swamp, suffering heavy loss. At Malvern Hill Lee's victorious troops were checked. But during the night McClellan continued his retreat, finally reaching the protection of the Federal gunboats at Harrison's Landing on the James. Here



GENERAL LEE.

he began to reorganize his discomfited forces. For seven days there had been incessant fighting. McClellan's troops were recalled to Washington, and the Peninsular Campaign ended in failure. (Map, p. 376.)

555. Pope in Command; Second Battle of Manassas. — The forces around Washington were organized and united under the name of the Army of Virginia, and General John Pope, who had won considerable reputation in the capture of Island No. 10 on the Mississippi, was put in command. McClellan's forces were ordered to unite with him. Pope chose the overland route against Richmond. While McClellan was withdrawing his forces and Lee was guarding Richmond from the Peninsula, Jackson was sent to check Pope. He defeated Pope's right wing at Cedar Mountain. As McClellan's command joined Pope, Lee's army was drawn forward to resist the united enemy. On August 30 Lee and Jackson attacked the combined Federal forces at the old battle-ground of Bull Run. In this second battle of Manassas Pope's army was utterly defeated, and after an ineffectual stand at Chantilly (September 1) took refuge within the fortifications of Washington. The combined Union forces around Washington were again placed in command of McClellan.

556. First Invasion of the North; Battle of Antietam or Sharpsburg. — Lee determined to invade the North. He crossed into Maryland and occupied Frederick City, north of Washington, threatening both Baltimore and Philadelphia. McClellan moved forward to intercept his march and Lee turned to the northwest. On the way Jackson captured Harper's Ferry with 12,000 Federal troops and large military stores. McClellan hastened after Lee and overtook him at Sharpsburg on Antietam Creek. Here on September 17 was fought one of the bloodiest battles of the war. Lee's army numbered about 40,000 and McClellan's more than twice as

many. Each side lost over 10,000 men without either gaining the victory. Lee, unable to defeat McClellan, who was continually receiving reënforcements, had to abandon his invasion of the North, and to retire across the Potomac into West Virginia. The Federal government, again dissatisfied with McClellan, put General Ambrose E. Burnside in command of the Army of the Potomac.

557. Battle of Fredericksburg. — Burnside chose to march upon Richmond by way of Fredericksburg, hoping to reach that place before Lee. His army now numbered about 125,000, about twice as many men as Lee had. Crossing the Rappahannock, he found that Lee had fortified himself at Fredericksburg. The Federal army attacked (December 13) and were repulsed with heavy loss,¹—over 12,000 men, more than twice as many as the Confederates lost. Burnside withdrew across the Rappahannock and was superseded by General Joe Hooker. The two armies lay facing each other without any engagement until spring.

558. Emancipation Proclamation. — President Lincoln had announced that the war was not against slavery, but to maintain the Union. Accordingly when the Union generals conquered slave territory and wished to declare the slaves therein free, he forbade them. Slaves were becoming more and more useful to the Confederates as teamsters, builders of earth-works, etc. General Butler declared that they were subject to capture as any other property, and accordingly claimed them as “contraband of war.”

The president had recommended to Congress to appropriate money to purchase the slaves of loyal masters. But the congressmen from the slave states which had not seceded opposed this policy and it was not adopted. At last Lincoln decided

¹ Official estimate of the Federal loss is 12,410; of the Confederate loss, 11,172.

that slavery must be abolished. He reached this conclusion early in the year 1862, but did not announce it until September. The Confederates had been very successful in Virginia, and such a proclamation would create the impression that the North was in a critical condition and grasping at straws. The battle of Antietam, though a drawn battle, was claimed as a Union victory because Lee withdrew from Maryland. Lincoln seized the opportunity. He issued a preliminary proclamation declaring that after January 1, 1863, all the slaves in that part of the Union then in arms against the United States government would be set free. No attention was paid to the announcement, and accordingly on January 1, 1863, he issued the famous Proclamation of Emancipation. This proclamation did not apply to the Union states, nor to those portions of the Confederacy which were then under Federal control (§§ 534, 544, 545).

559. Summary of Events of 1862. — *In the East.* The Army of the Potomac, a large and thoroughly drilled force, was put under the command of General McClellan. He attempted to reach Richmond from the south-east by way of the Peninsula. Washington was protected meanwhile by an army under McDowell. Johnston, the Confederate leader, slowly withdrew towards Richmond. He was wounded at Seven Pines, and was succeeded by General R. E. Lee. To prevent McClellan from receiving assistance from McDowell, Jackson was sent up the Shenandoah Valley.

McDowell was thus forced to retire to Washington to protect that city. Jackson then quickly rejoined Lee and aided him in the Seven Days' Battles. McClellan was forced to abandon his advance on Richmond.

The authorities at Washington, dissatisfied with McClellan, ordered him to unite his forces with those of Pope, who had been given charge of the army. Lee sent Jackson against Pope's army, which was defeated by him at Cedar Mountain. In the Second Battle of Manassas Pope's army was completely overthrown. Lee seized the opportunity to invade the North. McClellan was sent after him, and after the battle of Sharpsburg, or Antietam, Lee withdrew into northwest Virginia to recruit his army. The Union army was then given to Burnside, who endeavored to place his army between Lee and Richmond. At Fredericksburg he found himself confronted by the Southern army and was defeated. He was superseded by General Hooker. Thus three campaigns against Richmond ended in failure.

In the West. The Confederates were driven out of Kentucky, and after the capture of Fort Donelson by Grant, Tennessee also was lost to them. General A. S. Johnston was killed at Shiloh at the moment of victory: Beauregard, who succeeded him, retreated south to Corinth. Followed by the Union army he abandoned that place. The Southern army was given to Bragg, who invaded Kentucky, and managed to elude Buell and escape safely back to Chattanooga. The Union army was given to General Rosecrans, and on the last day of the year the two armies met in the bloody and indecisive battle of Murfreesboro.

Union forces gained possession of the Mississippi above Vicksburg, and captured the city of New Orleans. This was also a year of great naval battles. The fight between the *Monitor* and the *Merrimac* revolutionized naval warfare, introducing iron-clad war-vessels.

Charleston, Wilmington, and Mobile were the only seaboard towns still held by the Confederacy.

EVENTS OF 1863.

IN THE EAST.

560. Chancellorsville. — In the spring of 1863 General Hooker, — “Fighting Joe Hooker,” as he was called, — with more than 130,000¹ men, prepared to move against Lee, whose army numbered about 53,000. The Federal commander sent Averill with 3000 cavalry to dislodge Lee’s pickets on the Rappahannock, but they were driven back by 800 of Stuart’s cavalry under Fitzhugh Lee. Here the gallant Pelham fell.

Hooker’s plan of attack at Chancellorsville was well conceived. He threw forward 50,000 men under General Sedgwick against Lee’s right as a feint, while he massed the greater part of his army, over 73,000 men, on his own right to attack and crush the Confederate left. He sent 10,000 cavalry around to the rear of Lee’s army to cut off his communications and head off retreats.

Lee divined Hooker’s plan and out-maneuvred him at every point. He at once advanced his forces and threw Hooker on

¹ On April 30 Hooker had 133,708 “present, equipped for duty”; Lee had 53,303 present for duty at Chancellorsville.