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BY HOYT & HUMPHREYS.

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### The Intelligencer

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**From the New York Herald.**  
**The Chickahominy Campaign--  
The Reports of Generals Lee and  
McClellan.**

General Lee's report of the operations before Richmond subsequent to the battle of the Seven Pines is a very interesting document. General McClellan's report of the same events has been before the public for a considerable time, and has been freely commented upon. But the set assaults of professional critics, having no other purpose but to write McClellan down, have had comparatively little effect, while it is certain that the quiet story told by General Lee will damage McClellan's military reputation beyond repair. In the comparison of the two reports we must find the historic truth of the story; and that historic truth will forever show McClellan in a light scarcely less than ridiculous.

All the story of that terrible fighting which began at Mechanicsville and ended at Malvern Hill has, from the commencement, been foggy. The mass of the people have never distinctly understood it. The correspondents got mixed up at the start, hardly knew where they were, and never found out until they awoke at West-over. Then they began to write confused descriptions, in which the fights they had seen were frightfully muddled with one another and with the fights they had heard about. No one untangled this snarl. Thus the people were deprived of the readiest means of information and never made up the loss. Correspondents had before and have since furnished intelligible schemes or skeletons of battles and campaigns, that enable the people to grasp each as a unit and put in the proper places all facts that might subsequently come to hand. But this no one ever did for the seven days. It is therefore only proper to run over the names and relation of the various fights at present in order to make more clear a comparison of what is said by the two generals.

Lee was in Richmond with about sixty thousand men, and McClellan was in front of it with certainly not less than one hundred thousand; Jackson, with forty thousand, was marching to join Lee. The notable feature in the theatre of operations was the Chickahominy river. That stream traverses the country about four or five miles north of Richmond, in a direction very nearly east and west, and runs through an extensive tract of marshy land to the northeast and east of Richmond known as White Oak Swamp. McClellan's left rested on this swamp, which Lee supposed to be impassable for an army. His line crossed the stream, and his right rested on Beaver Dam, a tributary of the Chickahominy, he having a small force thrown out about a mile further, in the village of Mechanicsville. McClellan's right was therefore north of Richmond, with the Chickahominy between his line and the city. His left was due east of Richmond, without any river between the city and his troops. The fighting began on McClellan's right, north of the city and on the north side of the Chickahominy river.

On the 25th of June, at noon, A. P. Hill assaulted Mechanicsville and captured it, driving out our forces, which were not large, and which retired to Beaver Dam. On the same day, but at nightfall, Hill and Longstreet assaulted the position at Beaver Dam, a mile further west, and were repulsed. Those two were stubborn fights, but not great battles.

On the 27th, at daylight, Hill and Longstreet renewed the assault at Beaver Dam; but McClellan had already decided to withdraw from this position, as Jackson, coming down on his right, was sure to turn it. Longstreet and Hill, therefore, only encountered a force placed to check and retard their advance; so they carried the position, and this made the third of their wonderful "victories."

On the same day came the great battle of the series, called by McClellan the battle of the Chickahominy, and by Lee the battle of the Chickahominy. McClellan had retired his whole line from its advanced position, his left being on the Chickahominy at Powhite creek, and his right swept back so that his line was almost parallel with the line of the river. Against this Lee pushed Jackson, who had now arrived with a command of forty thousand men. Longstreet, A. P. Hill and D. H.

Hill. It was a fierce battle, and our forces were withdrawn across the Chickahominy at night. That ended the fighting north of the river.

On the 28th there was no battle. Our forces were all south of the river and retreating through White Oak Swamp, while Lee, waited on the north side of the river, expecting that McClellan would attempt to re-pass the stream and fight his way to the White House.

On the 29th occurred the fights at Allen's Farm, Peach Orchard, and so on, that may properly be classed under a general head as the battle of Savage Station. None of the troops that Lee had had north of the Chickahominy were engaged in this. It was the attempt of the force under Huger and Magruder—that Lee had left in the lines around Richmond to storm the position held by our rear guard. Meantime, however, Jackson was hurrying across the Chickahominy in rear of this position to get at us, and Longstreet and Hill, who had marched up the Chickahominy and recrossed it, were hurrying down on the Richmond side to get at McClellan's flank, or, it may be, they thought it was to save Richmond. But Magruder and Huger were repulsed, and we withdrew from Savage Station at night.

On June 30 occurred the battle in White Oak Swamp, and that at Glendale, which the enemy call the battle of Nelson's farm. We had gotten through the swamp and burned the bridges, and now formed a line that faced towards Richmond, its right being in the swamp, its left at Malvern Hill, on the James. Glendale was near the centre of this line. Longstreet and Hill were trying to force our position at Glendale, and expecting Jackson to come through the swamp and help. If he could have gotten through he would have been in the rear of us at Glendale, but he could not get through. Franklin held him all day as a giant would an infant. Longstreet and Hill were consequently held with equal ease at Glendale. We withdrew from both positions at night.

On July 1 was fought the battle at Malvern Hill. Our force was tolerably concentrated. Jackson, Huger and Magruder assaulted our position, and were repulsed with very great loss. We withdrew at night.

Such is the record. It is obvious that this important battle was the one at Gaines Mill. All that went before was preliminary to that, and what followed was the necessary consequence of the loss of it. McClellan having lost that battle was compelled to relinquish his position and get a new base. Had he won that battle he would not only have held his position, but he would have destroyed the force with which Lee fought it. That it was within his power to win that battle, to make that day decisive against the enemy, and to turn their apparent victory into positive disaster, is obvious both from the report of McClellan and the report of Lee. McClellan tells us very clearly the reason why he lost the battle. It was because he opposed to the seventy thousand men under Lee only half that number. Lee tells us that in that battle he moved his whole line against our position, comprising the commands of Longstreet, Jackson and the two Hills. McClellan estimated that force at seventy thousand, and that must have been nearly right. McClellan assures us that Porter only had thirty-five thousand, and he wrote to the President the next day that "a few thousand more men would have changed this battle from a defeat to a victory."

With "a few thousand more men" he could have turned the tide of that important battle, and yet he had on the other side of the Chickahominy, hardly half a day's march away, sixty thousand men. Why was that force idle? Why were Hooker and Kearny left at Barker's farm to listen to the fire and stand still? Why were the divisions of Sedgwick, Richardson and Couch not put into it? Sumner, Heintzelman, Keyes and Franklin were all on that day fit to fight for the grandest empire under the sun, and the corps of any one of those would have changed the result. But these troops were not used on that day, because General McClellan was the victim of a delusion. He was utterly and shamefully fooled by the manoeuvres of General Lee. He had made up his mind that Lee had two hundred thousand men; that seventy thousand were pounding Porter, and that the other hundred and thirty thousand were at Richmond ready to pounce down and gobble up Sumner, Heintzelman and the rest. And the proof that they were not there is found in the fact that they did not do it. That large force existed only in McClellan's imagination and on the pages of his "secret service" report.

Lee's main force was in front of Porter

and a force of twenty-five or thirty thousand held the Richmond lines; and in order to prevent McClellan from reinforcing Porter they made a great noise, as is usual in such cases. They were successful; for McClellan watched them with the largest part of his army. That he did so, watch them is evident from his own report, and that the force in front of Richmond was inconsiderable is evident from Lee's report, as well as from every fact in the history of the event. McClellan reports a battle on that side, and Lee does not even mention it. There, then, was McClellan's humiliating blunder. As he acknowledges, it was possible for him to concentrate his force on either side of the Chickahominy. On either side he would have the preponderance of numbers. The inducement to concentrate on the north side was the chance to destroy Lee's army by a magnificent battle. The inducement to concentrate on the south side was the chance to capture Richmond, almost without a battle. On the north side he would have had one hundred to seventy—enough to watch the river and whip the seventy. On the south side he would have had one hundred to thirty—the seventy on the other side could not have touched him—and Richmond would have been the prize. He even claims that by concentration on the north side he "could have beaten the enemy there." He decided not to strike for Richmond, and for an unheroic reason: he might fail; so he continued his retreat. That offered no chance for failure.

But Lee blundered very greatly also. The blunders of the two go together, and either, in the hands of a great perceptive soldier, would have been annihilated. On the 20th of June McClellan, as he tells us, had his preparations made for onset against the enemy's capital. His roads and bridges were built, his lines formed, his supplies up, his troops in hand—all was ready, and the dogs of war were held in the leash, ready and panting to go. There was only one fact he feared, and that was the enemy's numbers—the immense power with which they held the place. He was to move on 26th, and on that very day Lee, as if in league with McClellan, moved out of Richmond with all the troops with which he held it, except about twenty-five thousand.

There was Richmond defended by only that number, and here were a hundred thousand ready to move against it. Lee made haste to put a river between Richmond and the rest of his force. He took away his heroes—Longstreet and Hill—and carried them to join Jackson. Drunken Magruder and impotent Huger were the only ones in Richmond, and they had only two divisions. Lee did all this, even by his own showing. It was the most complete division of forces ever seen. He kept his forces thus divided for three days—the 26th, 27th and 28th of June. On one of these days Lee and his army were alone on the north side of the Chickahominy. "The bridges," says Lee, "were destroyed, their reconstruction impracticable." That is, McClellan's hundred thousand were on the same side of the river with Richmond, and only Magruder and Huger stood between Lee, with seventy thousand, was on the other side the river, and couldn't get across; he was out of the fight. This lasted all day, and McClellan employed that day in securing his retreat. One hour of Sheridan on that 28th of June would have given us Richmond, and Lee would never have been heard of again as a general. He must have died with shame.

But the discrepancy between the statements of facts in these two reports is not greater than their difference of tone. McClellan's exhibits a strange mental condition. He never once considers how he can defeat his enemy's grand attempt, but only how he can get away. He is anxious to put on some one else's shoulders the responsibility of the defeat in battles that have not yet begun. He has from the first made up his mind to be beaten. His messages have the despondency of "last words." His apprehensions have doubled the size of Lee's army, and that has made him hopeless. His mind is so preoccupied with retreat that, even when he has whipped the enemy—by his own showing and the enemy's showing—he sees no other advantage but that it gives him the opportunity to run a little further. Little as we are disposed to glorify Lee, it must be acknowledged that the tone of his report is very different from this, and that it always contemplates in a manly spirit the legitimate objects of a soldier's ambition—victory and the destruction of all opposing power.

R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, confined in Fort Pulaski, has applied, through influential friends for a parole of two or three weeks, to visit his family, who are suffering under heavy domestic afflictions.

### Selected Poetry.

#### THE STARS ARE IN THE QUIET DEEP.

The stars are in the quiet deep,  
A thousand saintly eyes of light,  
Sweet watchers of thy maiden sleep,  
That bring thee visions thro' the night;  
For not a breath that sweeps the skies,  
With tones that take the gentle ear,  
But from some holy mansion flies,  
To soothe the dream of one so dear.  
Silent, as through  
Arches of blue  
Darts the bright meteor gleaming and gone,  
So do they rise  
Bright in the skies  
Blessing for angels what mortals have won.

Commissioned by a Power Divine,  
Thus Love asserts an angel sway,  
And blessings, for thy heart, from mine,  
Even now are speeding on their way.  
The sacred principle of things,  
In all we know, that Heaven makes fair,  
May well command a thousand wings,  
To waft and hallow Love's own prayer.  
Softly as goes  
Dew to the rose,  
Bearing the precious balms gathered above,  
So do they bear,  
Blessing and prayer,  
Cheering the happy heart, chosen of Love!

#### Mail for County Seats.

The following communication in reference to mail communication with county seats or "Court houses," will be found important:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, August 3d, 1865.

SIR: With a view to furnishing mail facilities at the earliest practicable moment, to persons residing at and near County seats in the State of South Carolina, I have the honor to inform you that the Department, on the receipt of reasonable bids for the transportation, will be prepared to issue orders authorizing temporary mail service on routes running from such county seats to the nearest points on railroads on which mails are conveyed.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. DENNISON,  
Post Master General.  
Hon. B. F. PERRY, Provisional Governor  
of South Carolina, Greenville, S. C.  
N. B. By "temporary mail service" is intended service to Dec. 31st next, previous to which time all the routes in the State will be advertised for re-letting from January 1st, 1866.

GEN. COX, of Ohio, proposes a settlement of the negro status question, of which Northern journals express their approbation. Believing that, for the good of both parties, some separation should be made between the white and black races, he suggests that, without interfering with the existing organization of any State, portions of the country, perhaps of each State, be devoted to negro colonies. He thinks that the blacks, being thus gathered to particular localities, the degree of civilization of which they are capable may be readily attained through the patronage of the Government and the assistance of the whites, all motives for antagonism being removed. The difficulty of selecting and securing the localities is not solved.

JACKSON, Aug. 21.—The following constitutional amendment has just passed the Convention, by a vote of eighty-six to eleven:

The institution of slavery having been destroyed in the State of Mississippi, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, otherwise than for the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall be duly convicted, shall hereafter exist in this State; and the Legislature, at its session, and thereafter as the public welfare may require, shall provide by law for the protection and security of the persons and property of the freedmen of the State, and guard them and the State against any evil that may arise from their sudden emancipation.

THE Mississippi Convention, now in session at Jackson, has passed to first reading ordinances ratifying all State laws passed during the war, all judicial proceedings, marriages, sales and contracts of the same period, and prohibiting the passage by the Legislature of any law imposing civil disabilities, punishment or forfeiture of estate for having taken part in the rebellion. Memorials were presented requesting of President Johnson that the State shall not be garrisoned by negro troops, and that steps be taken in behalf of Jeff. Davis and ex-Governor Clark. The Constitutional Committee has reported in favor of prohibiting slavery.

DEATH.—Not only does death beautify our lifeless forms, but the thought of it gives a more beautiful expression to the countenance even in life, and new strength to the heart; a rosemary is now placed as a chaplet on the brows of the dead and gives life to the fainting by its vivifying essence.

From the Memphis, Tenn., Daily Commercial.

### Let the South be Heard.

In order to secure peace upon the best and most permanent basis and hasten the complete restoration of the machinery of civil government throughout the Southern States it is a matter of no small importance to the authorities at Washington, that the true sentiment of the Southern people should be definitely made known as regards the situation in which they are placed by the unsuccessful results of their revolutionary struggle, and the relations which they sustain, or desire to sustain, to the Federal Government.

And it is, perhaps, of no less importance to the public tranquility and the great work of national reconciliation, that the people of the North and West should be put in possession of facts instead of rumors, as to the real position and purposes of their Southern neighbors, and fairly understand the tone and temper of the Southern mind.

At present there is a disastrous ignorance on this subject among the people at large, and an ignorance all the greater on the part of those who assume to feel the greatest interest in Southern regeneration, and seek to control and shape it, as this want of knowledge and consequent lack of real sympathy may chance to suggest.

Nor is the Government itself so thoroughly posted upon the matter that it needs no further enlightenment to assist and promote its deliberations. The President has much else to learn than may be gathered from the delegations that have waited upon him as representative Southerners, many of whom are self-constituted committees, with individual objects to accomplish, unauthorized to speak even for their friends and neighbors, still less to reflect the public sentiment of any considerable constituency.

And far less may the authorities or people derive from the correspondence of the public press information that is of value or reliability. Much of it is positively false, much of it embellished by fancy or prejudice—all of it, with scarcely an exception, fraught with mischief and evil.

It is by this sort of literature that the public mind is kept in a ferment, and the passions of the people fed, with what, in many cases, seems a pertinacity almost infernal.

Isolated instances of disaffection, brutality or cruelty to negroes, are sought out or invented with a truly Satanic industry, and reiterated in the ears of the people and the administrations as evidence of the refractory, sullen, rebellious, or still treasonable temper of the Southern States.

It seems to be a studied purpose with these conspirators against reunion upon the basis of the Constitution, to vilify the South as barbaric, irreclaimably depraved, and fit only for subjugation.

In these sources, the radical opponents of constitutional restoration are constantly finding new arguments for forcing their dogmas upon the attention of the people and the Government, and the Government itself is unavoidably misled to a greater or less extent, by the same pernicious system of misrepresentation that has left the Southern people completely at the mercy of their foes, as it were, and virtually helpless.

There is in all this a manifest injustice. The South, in the name of humanity, has a right to be heard. She has attempted to throw off the National authority, but failing in the effort, groaning under its terrible consequences, ready to renew her old time allegiance, and indisposed to quibble as to terms which she can neither alter nor reject, she only asks that the work of restoration be speeded, and that she may have some opportunity of vindicating herself from the broadcast aspersions, which are so industriously disseminated to blacken the sincerity of her motives and prolong her miseries.

For the purpose then of giving to the inhabitants of the late Confederate States an opportunity of announcing in some general and authoritative way, what may be regarded as an official declaration of sentiment, reflecting the dominant opinions of the Southern country, we beg leave to suggest that a Convention of Delegates, from all the seceding States be held early in the coming Autumn, or as soon as practicable, at Nashville or some other central point, for the purpose of placing the people of these States in their true position before the country and the world, as a people acquiescent in the rulings of fortune, submissive to Federal authority, anxious to resume the duties of citizenship, and assuring President Johnson of their united purpose to cooperate with him in the re-establishment of law and order and the maintenance of the national authority.

And as an initiatory movement, let conventions be held at once in the various counties of Tennessee, and delegates selected to a State Convention to be held at Nashville, and let the example, inaugurated here, be urged with all possible earnestness and zeal upon the remaining States of the South that there may be an entire concert of action and an assemblage, in general Convention, worthy of the noble occasion which shall have summoned it together.

Let it be understood, furthermore, that no man participates in these conventions who has not been at one time or another identified with the cause of secession, and in an attitude of hostility to the Government, whose protection he now desires in return for his renewed allegiance.

We do not presume to say what should be the programme of such a convocation as we have in all sincerity and good faith suggested. It would necessarily be composed in a great measure of the bravery, the genius and the intelligence of the Southern States—statesmen, soldiers and scholars, all occupying the same level of defeat, yet by the adversities of fortune made capable of stronger and more united efforts for the social and political renovation of their wasted and disorganized communities; and entitled, from the aggravated stigmas which are heaped upon their names, to at least a respectful and considerate hearing.

They have no organs of communication with each other or the people at large—many of them, divested by statute of the elective franchise, have no means of establishing their loyalty at the ballot box—all of them are under the ban of a public opinion that weighs not in its deductions—all of them under the lash of a penal and proscriptive press.

Let them be heard, we say out of their own mouths let them be adjudged, and not out of the mouth of a Tribune correspondent. Let their united pledge be given of fealty to the law and Constitution. Let their recognition of the abolition of negro slavery be formally announced. Let them seal the act of emancipation with the seal of their conventional authority. Let them repel the unfriendly and unfounded aspersions of their traders, and extend to the measures and the policy indicated by their Executive Magistrate, a hand and heart of earnest assent and co-operation.

With such a demonstration the country would rest content. The President would rejoice at its manifestations. It would strengthen his own arm—weakens that of his political antagonists, and to its conclusions the judgment of mankind would pronounce one universal amen.

Justus Brutus Booth (the father of J. Wilkes Booth) and several friends had been invited to dine with an old man in Baltimore, of distinguished kindness, urbanity and piety. The host, though disapproving of theatre going, had heard so much of Booth's remarkable powers, that curiosity to see the man in this instance, overcame his prejudice. After the dinner was over, some one requested Booth as a particular favor, and one which all present would appreciate, to read the Lord's prayer.

Booth rose slowly and reverently from his chair. It was wonderful to witness the play of emotion that convulsed his countenance. He became deadly pale, and his eyes, turned tremblingly upward, were wet with tears. As yet he had not spoken. The silence could be felt. It became painful, until at last the spell was broken, as if by an electric shock, as a rich toned voice from the white lips syllabled forth, "Our father who art in Heaven," with a pathos and solemnity that thrilled all hearts. He finished—the silence continued. Not a voice was heard, or a muscle moved, in his rapt audience, until from a remote corner of the room a subdued sob was heard, and the old man, their host, stepped forward with streaming eyes and seized Booth by the hand. "Sir," said he, in broken accents, "you have afforded me a pleasure for which my whole future life will feel grateful. I am an old man, and every day from boyhood to the present time, I thought that I had repeated the Lord's Prayer, but I have never heard it before—never." "You are right," said Booth. "To read that prayer as it should be read has caused me the severest study and labor for thirty years, and I am far from being satisfied with my rendering of that wonderful production. Hardly one person in ten thousand comprehends how much beauty, tenderness and grandeur can be condensed into a space so small and words so simple. The prayer itself sufficiently illustrates the truth of the Bible, and stamps upon it the seal of Divinity."

John Minor Bates is for negro suffrage. He is for anything that pays.