

HAMPTON'S CATTLE RAID.

An Unexpected Surprise for Meade in September, 1864.

News and Courier.

Near Coggin's Point, on the James River, less than five miles east of City Point and opposite to Westover, was a large herd of cattle belonging to the Army of the Potomac. From information obtained by trusty scouts Hampton ascertained the exact location of these beeves and the disposition of the Federal troops in the vicinity, and decided that he would capture the herd. To accomplish this it would be necessary to make an incursion in the rear of the Federal army and to within almost rifle shot of City Point. Now City Point was the headquarters and base of the Army of the Potomac. Here Gen. Grant and his military family were "at home" to visitors; but did not look for a call from Hampton. It was supposed to be as safe as Washington. The good people at Boston would have been no more surprised by a raid made to carry away Plymouth Rock than was the Federal army by the rummaging of their larder under the very nose of headquarters. It was no wonder that their nerves were badly shaken, and this they certainly were. The unexpected had happened to them.

On the morning of September 14 Hampton moved out upon the expedition from his position south of Petersburg. He took with him W. H. F. Lee's division, Rosser's and Dearing's brigades, and 100 men from Young's and Dunovant's brigades. Proceeding southeasterly down the west side of Rowanty Creek on a swift march he bivouacked quietly for the night at Wilkinson's Bridge, and making an early start next morning and bearing nearly north reached during the day Cook's Bridge, on the Blackwater River. This detour brought him round the left flank of the Federals, nearly due south of Coggin's Point, and only about ten miles from where he intended to break through their picket guards. The bridge at this point had been destroyed, as he was aware, and he selected the place for crossing the river for this reason, as he would not be looked for from that direction. In a few hours a temporary bridge was constructed by the engineers, the horses meantime rested and fed, and by midnight the river was crossed and the march resumed. North of the Blackwater about nine miles, near Sycamore Church, was the largest detachment of the enemy nearest to the herd of cattle, which was about two miles further on. To the right and left of this point were smaller bodies of Federals. So Hampton determined to attack the largest force first, and scatter it, and head of the smaller detachments, thus preventing concentration. To Rosser was accordingly assigned the central attack, after accomplishing which he was to proceed to appropriate and carry away the prospective beefsteaks. To W. H. F. Lee's division was entrusted the task of driving away the force to the left and holding the roads leading from City Point from which interference was to be expected. Dearing was to place his brigade on the right of Sycamore Church, and when he heard the firing there was to dash into and demolish a post about three miles from Fort Powhatan, on the James River, and hold the roads leading to the fort to prevent attack from that quarter.

At 5 o'clock a. m. Rosser attacked. The videttes were driven in, but the main body, a regiment, the 1st District of Columbia cavalry, rallied behind barricades in very good style. However, Rosser lost no time, but made short work of them, annihilating the regiment, all not killed, wounded or captured making off in every direction, spreading consternation throughout the neighborhood and exaggerated accounts of the numbers of the raiders. As soon as W. H. F. Lee's and Dearing's people heard the firing they commenced their part of the programme, dispersing or riding down everything they met. They then held the roads, as directed, thus preventing assistance being sent to the central post, and drove away or took all the couriers whom they could lay hands on. Rosser sent forward a detachment to secure the cattle, which they quickly did, overpowering the guard of 120 men and the herdsmen. Many horses were also taken, eleven wagons, three flags, and the beeves amounting to 2,468. Three camps were burned, a considerable quantity of valuable stores and blankets carried off and more destroyed. All this was no easy matter, but it was thoroughly done, in a business-like manner, without undue haste, yet without loss of time. Everything had been well arranged beforehand and was carried out without a mistake. The troopers became for the occasion amateur cowboys, and good ones, too. The cavalry, the army's maid-of-all-work, filling the gaps in the military household, were one day storming a battery through abatis and brush on another driving oxen. The Federal herdsmen of the cattle proved very useful and served

their new masters as well, and apparently as readily, as if these had been their original employers. When the oxen would become troublesome, showing an inclination to stray into the fields and make delay, the herdsmen, cracking their long lashes, sounding like pistol shots, would quickly bring them back, though it must be confessed a trooper always rode alongside with a handy weapon to insure loyalty. But everything ran smoothly and the sight would have gladdened the heart of a Highland chieftain of the olden time, but his best "life" would have been insignificant compared to this.

Such a mass of cattle kept together would have been unwieldy, perhaps impracticable, to manage, but by breaking them up into detachments, with intervals between each, this difficulty was avoided.

Completely successful in executing his plans, Hampton commenced to withdraw by 8 o'clock a. m.

While all this was going on in most cheerful manner for the raiders the greatest consternation and bewilderment were prevailing at Federal headquarters. By prearrangement with Lee at the hour at which Hampton attacked a demonstration to distract attention was made along a part of the line of the army, the infantry driving the enemy's pickets into the fortifications west of the Jerusalem plank road, and bodies of troops were moved about as if for a general attack. At the same time Butler, with his cavalry division, began to make himself very disagreeable to the troops in his vicinity. It seemed from all this as if Gen. Lee was going on the warpath in earnest and that Hampton's cavalry raid was only intended to distract attention from this, whilst, in fact, just the reverse was true.

So Federal headquarters made the wires hot with telegrams and couriers were sent galloping for dear life with dispatches. Meade's "household troops" were kept very busy that day. Gen. Grant was temporarily absent at Harper's Ferry consulting with Sheridan, then in the Shenandoah Valley, but he had a very "unpleasant quarter of an hour," and several of them, on receipt of excited telegrams from Meade and from his chief of staff, Humphreys. And poor Kautz, such of his cavalry as had been met by Hampton having been demolished and sent scurrying in all directions, was sadly shattered in nerves and worrying unlooked Meade with messages and queries, in the replies to which one can almost fancy he hears the General swearing. Many of these telegrams and dispatches are preserved in the published records of the war office. They are entertaining reading even at this late day, for, being sent on the spur of the moment, amidst all the excitement and exasperation, when there was no time to weigh words, they exhibit the true state of mind of the senders. Like spoken words stored hot in a phonograph and now released, they seem very different from official dispatches prepared carefully after all the hurly-burly is past and blood is cool. Meade evidently believed Lee was advancing in force, and was much worried at the absence of Grant at such a trying time, involving so great responsibility. Kautz sends a message that he has information Hampton's force is 14,000 (!) strong. Sharpe, deputy provost marshal, says it is Hampton's entire cavalry corps. Trusty citizens report an immense force. Meade estimates 6,000. Humphreys, chief of staff, informs Kautz that he can reinforce him with a division of infantry and a battery of artillery, but by that time the bird is flown. Sharpe and the rest fear the capture and destruction of all the immense stores at and around City Point and put their heads together to arrange to have gunboats rushed up to cover City Point with artillery. The alarm really became almost pathetic.

But Hampton pursued the even tenor of his way. Having procured nice beefsteaks at a convenient market without the trouble of payment, he intended to take them safely home to cook. He retired towards the Blackwater River, and before reaching the stream had reunited all the portions of his command, and then quietly crossed. Rosser was sent forward from there to hold the Jerusalem plank road at a point about thirteen miles south of Petersburg and east of the Weldon Railroad. Here he was attacked by Gregg and Kautz with their cavalry, but easily repelled them. So he held the road, and the cattle were sent two miles in the rear to the south, and were safely got across the Nottaway River at Freeman's Ford, and all brought "home." When Hampton had made sure that the cattle and other spoils were safely out of reach of recapture, he turned his attention to cutting off a roodly portion of the Federal cavalry, but by the time he had made dispositions to get

in their rear for this purpose, it was found they had retreated, and this plan was, therefore, abandoned. So weary, but jolly, his men returned to the bivouac on Rowanty Creek. That night, and for many a day afterwards, there were plenty of sardines, and other canned foods, pickles, and many things esteemed luxuries by poor fellows, who had eaten nothing but bacon and flour, and too little of them, for months past. These were picked up by the men in the burned camps, the regularly captured property being turned over to the proper authorities. They had marched one hundred miles in three days. The prisoners captured amounted to 304, and Hampton's losses to 10 killed, 57 wounded and 4 missing.

In writing to Gen. Grant after the affair is over and the beeves irrevocably lost, Meade is evidently still very much disconcerted. He has discovered by that time, that it was only a cattle raid, and not part of a general attack, and gives the best excuse he can think of for the loss, with tears in his voice. He attributes Hampton's success and safe withdrawal to his force, being 6,000 men, and he says his own troops were only 3,000 cavalry and 3,000 infantry available, but in fact, to arrive at this estimate of 6,000 for the Confederates he has used the multiple two. The estimates greatly and drolly varied, from Kautz 14,000 (!) according to Major Van Rensselaer 5,000; Humphreys says three brigades of cavalry; Sharpe the whole cavalry corps, and so on. Grant in a dispatch to Meade calls the captures "a rich haul," and so they were. Those 2,468 beeves were a Godsend to the army, "Hampton's steaks," as they were termed, and thrifty used, lasted for many a week. They were fine large oxen.

It is amusing to discover now, from the tell-tale dispatches preserved, how nervous during the rest of the campaign the troops were who guarded the lines near City Point, especially in the vicinity of Sycamore Church, where Hampton had broken through. They were always hearing strange noises at night, suggested by former unpleasant experiences. Sometimes it would be phantom bridge builders spanning the Blackwater; at others the tramp in the dark of ghostly horses and the clatter of sabres. Altogether they had a very trying time of it, like children in bed in the dark, and their officers were greatly disgusted by some prompt retreats of their men from imaginary onslaughts, and were thus betrayed into using naughty words.

On Gen. Hampton's return to his quarters he received a note from Gen. Lee, in which he writes: "I have received your report of the result of your operations, and beg to express my high appreciation of the skill and boldness you have displayed and my gratification at your handsome and valuable success. You will please convey to the officers and men of your command my thank for the courage and energy with which they have executed your orders, by which they have added another to the list of important services rendered by the cavalry during the present campaign."

The information about the herd of beeves, upon which the expedition for its capture was arranged, was obtained from Sergt. Shadbourne, of the Jeff Davis Legion, a scout. He accompanied Rosser's leading regiment as guide, and was foremost in the attack. Sergt. Hogan, in charge of Butler's scouts, was also with the expedition, and did excellent service. One scout was killed and three wounded in the fighting. The scouts of the army did not constitute a distinct organization, but suitable men, volunteering for this duty, were detailed from the different commands. The position required not only coolness, courage, zeal and intelligence, but special faculties: born in some few men. The letter of Shadbourne giving the information about the cattle is admirable for the purpose intended in matter and manner.

Blood Cure Sent Free.

By addressing Blood Balm Co., 380 Mitchell Street, Atlanta, Ga., any of our readers may obtain a sample bottle of their famous B. B. B.—Botanic Blood Balm, the greatest, grandest, best and strongest Blood Remedy made. Cures when all else fails, pimples, ulcers, scrofula, eczema, boils, blood poison, eating sores, distressing skin eruptions, cancer, catarrh, rheumatism. Free medical advice included, when description of your trouble is given. This generous offer is worth while accepting. Sample bottle sent all charges prepaid. Large bottles, (containing nearly a quart of medicine) for sale by all druggists at \$1 per bottle. B. B. B. is away ahead of all other Blood Remedies for curing Blood Humors. Try B. B. B.

— A resident of a Minnesota town died recently of obesity. He weighed, at his death, 438 pounds.

Whooping Cough.

I had a little boy who was nearly dead from an attack of whooping cough. My neighbors recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I did not think that any medicine would help him, but after giving him a few doses of that remedy I noticed an improvement, and one bottle cured him entirely. It is the best cough medicine I ever had in the house.—J. L. MOORE, South Burgetstown, Pa. For sale by Hill Orr Drug Co.

Ocean Miners.

Some remarkable miners are found in the ocean delving into the hardest rock. Some of them work in limestone coral; others penetrate the muddy bottom and incase the shaft in which they work with lime.

So far as its resemblance to a miner of the land is concerned the shell known as pholas is the most remarkable. as it is not only a wonderful miner, but also carries a light, bright and vivid, that seems to serve as a miner's lamp, and that has some interesting properties, one of which is that it shows in the water and in a vacuum, and, while clear and distinct, emits not the slightest heat.

The pholas is a richly chased shell about two inches in length, and has the power of boring holes in the hardest rock as well as in clay, but, unlike other miners, the pholas never comes out of the mine. By some means, possibly by its rasping foot, possibly by some secretion that dissolves the stone, it gradually wears the stone away and slowly and imperceptibly enters, not in an undulating course, for a few inches. Having reached a place of safety, the miner begins to enlarge its lead or tube. This continues as the shell grows, until finally, if the pholas was capable of appreciating its surrounding, it would realize that it was a prisoner for life; that it had bored into the rock and there grown larger than the tunnel through which it entered. The object of this miner is not to obtain riches, but to find protection and security in its granite cell, and with its light gleaming at night no better imitation of a human miner can be imagined.

Almost as remarkable is the mygellus. The pholas is incased in a shell almost flint, but the mygellus is very delicate and in all probability forms its tunnel with the aid of some dissolving secretion. It penetrates the rock or object which it selects and gradually throws out a tiny tube which is merely an extension of the shell. In some instances this tube is a foot in length and a marvellous example of the tube maker's art. It is said that a distinguished engineer obtained his idea of a tunnel from this shell.

These shell miners are not especially destructive. They bore very slowly and usually attack stone; but there are other miners which are inveterate enemies of man in their efforts to destroy wharves, piers and vessels, chief among which is a little crablike creature—Limnoria—that affects piers and bores into the hardest lumber, penetrating it in every direction; until it presents the appearance of a honeycomb. So persistent are these miners on the California coast that it is necessary to repair docks and piers once or twice a year.

In tropical waters an equally destructive ocean miner is found in the tereido, that penetrates the hulls of vessels and woodwork of all kinds. As it proceeds it encases its tube with a lime-like secretion, and in some instances the entire framework is eaten away and replaced by the pearly deposit of this miner, that constructs a tube as carefully devised as the arch of the human miner. A wreck stranded on a coral reef, so high and dry that one could walk around it at low tide, showed the beams and planks intact in many instances, but the hard could be thrust through the apparently solid planking in any direction, the structure crushing in like pasteboard. The interior wood had been eaten away and replaced by the lime-like tubes of this remarkable miner.

Among the worms are many singular miners that construct elaborate tubes ten or fifteen feet in length, and have lights upon their bodies with which to illuminate the tunnel.

Nearly all the crabs are miners and of a very skillful class, especially the spirit crabs, which mine in soft sand and by their careful manipulation prove their wonderful skill in mining.

An Ugly Little Man.

A school inspector was examining a class in grammar and trying to elucidate the complex relations of adjectives and nouns, by a telling example.

"Now, for instance," said he, "what am I?" That was an easy question, and all the children shouted: "A man!" and then looked around triumphantly, as much as to say: "Ask another."

"Yes, but what else?" said the inspector.

This was not so easy; but after a pause, a boy ventured to suggest: "A little man."

"Yes, but there is something more than that."

This was a poser; but at last an infant phenomenon almost leaped from his seat in his eagerness, cried: "Please, sir, I know, sir—an ugly little man."

— Counterfeiters have been working successfully inside the Colorado penitentiary.

WINE OF CARDUI
MONTHLY SUFFERING.
Thousands of women are troubled at monthly intervals with pains in the head, back, breasts, shoulders, sides hips and limbs. But they need not suffer. These pains are symptoms of dangerous derangements that can be corrected. The menstrual function should operate painlessly.
McELEE'S Wine of Cardui
makes menstruation painless, and regular. It puts the delicate menstrual organs in condition to do their work properly. And that stops all this pain. Why will any woman suffer month after month when Wine of Cardui will relieve her? It costs \$1.00 at the drug store. Why don't you get a bottle to-day?
For advice, in cases requiring special directions, address, giving symptoms, "The Ladies' Advisory Department," The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.
Mrs. ROSENA LEWIS, of Gammill, Texas, says: "I was troubled at monthly intervals with terrible pains in my head and back, but have been entirely relieved by Wine of Cardui."

KAMNOL.
HEADACHE, NEURALGIA, LA GRIPPE.
Relieves all pain.
25c. all Druggists.

Drs. Strickland & King, DENTISTS.
OFFICE IN MASONIC TEMPLE.
Gas and Cocaine used for Extracting Teeth.

HARROWS, HOES, CULTIVATORS
Labor-Saving, Grass-Killing Implements, including the popular
ROMAN, KLONDIKE and TERRELL HARROWS.
The Original Count's Home-made Grain Cradles—hand-made, hand-set, perfect.
The well-known 14-Finger Grain Cradles.
Diamond Harrow Blades and other shapes. Have you seen our latest—
ONE-HORSE WEEDER.
A great implement for little money.
Remember, we are always to the front.
SULLIVAN HARDWARE CO.

DO YOU FEEL ...
BILIOUS, DROWSY, LOW SPIRITED, BODY AND BRAIN WEARY?
PRICKLY ASH BITTERS
RELIEVES AND INVIGORATES.
It cleanses the liver and bowels, strengthens the kidneys and aids digestion, thus the system is regulated and the body fortified to resist disease.
... A VALUABLE REMEDY TO KEEP IN THE HOUSE ...
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.
Price \$1.00 Per Bottle.
EVANS PHARMACY, Special Agents.

A FIRST-CLASS COOK
Can't do first-class work with second-class materials. But you can hold the girl accountable if you buy our: : : :
GROCERIES FROM US!
We have the right kinds of everything and at the right prices. Where quantities are equal no dealer can sell for less than we do. We guarantee to give honest quantity at the very LOWEST PRICES.
Come and see us. We have numerous articles in stock that will help you get up a square meal for a little money. Our Stock of—
Confections, Tobacco, Cigars, Etc.,
Are always complete. Yours to please,
Free City Delivery. **G. F. BIGBY.**

For the Prevention and Cure of the Prevalent Troubles ...
GRIPPE COLDS,
And their accompaniments.
Neuralgic Pains, Headache, Pain in the Limbs,
OUR GRIP CAPSULES
Are almost a Specific. This remedy should be in every household. . . .
EVANS PHARMACY.

M. L. CARLISLE. L. H. CARLISLE
A NEW ADDITION TO OUR STOCK
WE have added to our large and complete Stock of—
GROCERIES AND CONFECTIONERIES.
A full and complete line of—
Hardware and Farm Supplies.
It will pay you to get our prices on Supplies before buying elsewhere, as we are in a position to give you the lowest prices on these Goods. We would be glad to have you call on us.
CARLISLE BROS.
P. S.—Free delivery to any part of the City.

STOVES, STOVES!

IF you have a Stove to buy SAVE MONEY by getting the latest improved, the largest oven for the least money. I will take your old Stove in part payment on a new one.
Crockery, Tinware and Glassware, Lamp Goods,
A full and complete Stock.
Bring me your HIDES and RAGS.
JOHN T. BURRISS.
N. B.—Prompt attention to all Repair Work, Roof Painting, Plumbing, &c.

CHINA.
A VARIETY OF FINE FRENCH CHINA TEA-SERVI. BEAUTIFUL UTILITY DECORATED. ODD ZIBOES AND NOVELTIES.
JOHN M. HUBBARD, JEWELER, HO TEL BLDG.
\$9.00 WILL BUY A FINE CHINA TEA-SERVI.

SIT ON THE FENCE AND SLEEP!
WHILE the procession passes if you want to. Nobody will disturb you. But if you are alive to your own interests arouse yourself, shake off slumber, climb into the band-wagon and wend your way with the crowd to—
THE JEWELRY PALACE
OF WILL. R. HUBBARD!
They that want the best and prettiest to be obtained in Diamonds, Jewelry, Silver and Plated Ware, Watches and Clocks that will keep time and are backed with a guarantee, Fine China and Glassware and beautiful Novelties, know that to Will. R. Hubbard's is the place to go. They that want honest treatment know that this is the place to find it. All Goods are just as represented, and are fully covered by guarantee.
The young man who has a girl and wants to keep her goes there. Hubbard will help you keep her. The young married couple goes there to beautify their little home. Hubbard beautifies it for you. The rich people go there because they can afford it, and the poor go there, also, because they can afford it.
Everything NEW and UP-TO-DATE.
ENGRAVING FREE.
WILL. R. HUBBARD,
Jewelry Palace, next to Farmers and Merchants Bank;